Hafa Adai!

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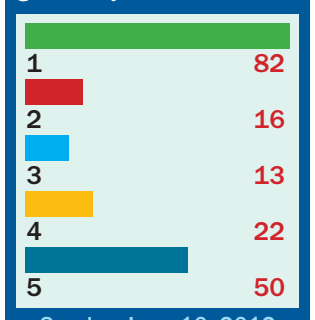
POLL RESULTS

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the hardest and 5 the easiest, how would you rate the ease of entry to and exit from the CNMI since federal authorities took over the local immigration system?



Sunday, June 10, 2012

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Lindsay Lohan emerges uninjured from a collision with a dump truck.

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Feds: Overspending led to food stamp cuts

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. Food and Nutrition Services Administrator Audrey Rowe pointed to the CNMI's own overspending that led to the 13.6 percent food stamp benefit cuts beginning May 1, a piece of information that the public wouldn't have known if not for Rowe's recent response to Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan's (Ind-MP) letter inquiring about the benefit cuts at a time when the CNMI needs more aid than ever.

The CNMI government gave more monthly food stamp benefits to every household than was approved by and agreed upon with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's FNS in the fiscal year 2012 budget.

» $4.5M will not be restored for NMI
» Kilili asks USDA for increased oversight, reconsideration

That's just one of two bad news about the food stamp program in the CNMI.

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, in a June 5 letter to Sablan, said the $4.5 million in de-obligated food stamp program block grant that the CNMI was unable to use from fiscal years 2007 through 2011 will not be restored.

Sablan said it is "painful to see $4.5 million lost because the CNMI did not spend the money to feed needy families."

"But I applaud the decision to change the MOU [memorandum of understanding] so this situation can be avoided in the

See FEDS on Page 4

17 MHS students find 'diamonds on the ground'

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Over two months of hard work resulted in a big payout of crops, extra school credits, and valuable hands-on experience for 17 Marianas High School students who completed their agriculture class, joining a growing community of young farmers who would carry on the islands' second-most important industry.

The students—ranging from sophomores to seniors—received their certificates at the school grounds Thursday last week, during the open house for the class, now aptly called the MHS *Lancheros*. The event featured some of their freshly harvested produce, which were sold at very affordable prices.

This year's agriculture class was a pilot project in partnership with the Northern Marianas Trades Institute, which provided the financial and manpower resources to make the project happen.

The class was composed of Maria Theresa Elizabeth Dizon, Jayna Liza-

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CLARISSA V. DAVID

Marianas High School students who completed the after-school agriculture class called MHS Lancheros and taught by agriculturist Isidoro T. Cabrera hold their certificates of completion during the group's open house event at the school grounds on Thursday. Besides their instructor, the young farmers pose for a group photo with MHS school principal Cherlyn Cabrera and Northern Marianas Trades Institute founder and president Tony Pellegrino.

Troop store burglary suspect surrenders

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Derik Reyes, the suspect in the burglary at the U.S. Army Reserve Center's troop store in Puerto Rico, Saipan, surrendered yesterday to the Department of Public Safety.

Reyes

Reyes showed up at DPS accompanied by his mother at 12:21pm and was placed under arrest at 12:26pm, police spokesman Jason Tarkong told *Saipan Tribune*.

Tarkong said the mother contacted police detective Roque Camacho yesterday about Reyes' intent to surrender.

At 12:14pm, police detective Jess Norita, who was with Camacho at the time, called DPS Central to inform them about this development.

Reyes is expected to be taken to the

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CHC line of credit bill OK'd

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial signed into law on Friday a bill that would provide for up to $7 million in additional revolving line of credit for the Commonwealth Health Corp., press secretary Angel Demapan said last night. The bill signing comes three days after the governor certified the over-the-cap salaries of four doctors amounting to as much as $200,000 a year.

» Fitial certifies over-the-cap salary of 4 doctors

The $7 million is part of the originally planned $11.58 million line of credit and loan for CHC. Of the $11.58 million, $3 million was already drawn down by CHC from the Marianas Public Land Trust. The other $1.58 million loan was for CHC's electronic health record system.

The bill bounced back and forth be-

See CHC on Page 4

Local

Top 3 firms named for hospital assessment

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
Moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A special panel has narrowed down to the top three its list of companies that will do the planned assessment of the entire operation of the Commonwealth Health Center.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Juan N. Babauta, who is a member of the special committee, confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* that five companies responded to the request for proposal. He said that two were eliminated on Friday and the final contractor will be named soon.

Besides Babauta, the other member of the special committee are hospital administrator Karen Buettner, the governor's adviser for Medicaid Esther Muña, and the governor's legal counsel, James Stump.

Saipan Tribune learned that five proposers included The Medical City from the Philippines, Sanigest International, Soyring Consulting, HealthTech, and TMGI Companies Inc., all from the U.S. mainland.

After a careful and through selection process, the four-member committee decided to eliminate The Medical City and the Sanigest International for not meeting the set criteria.

Babauta said the remaining top three—Soyring Consulting, HealthTech, and TMGI—have been scheduled for 30-minute interviews by the panel. The interview will focus on four areas: the approach the company would use to quickly evaluate the CHC system, identifying problems and strengths; the standards each company would use; the plan that would be produced for correcting any deficiencies; and the company's experience in working with small hospitals like CHC.

Soyring is a small company that does selected studies of hospital operations while HealthTech is a large company that specializes in broad hospital operations and has operated hospitals. TMGI, meantime, is a small company of independent consultants that does health studies as well as other consulting work.

Babauta disclosed that the government-initiated study will be funded by an Office of the Interior grant amounting to roughly $150,000. Once finalized, the assessment period will take about six weeks to complete.

Babauta believes the assessment of the hospital's operation is not intended to privatize the establishment but to get a clear picture of the facility's efficiency, staffing, and financial standing.

"It's good to have specific knowledge about the overall condition of the hospital, specifically in operation, staffing needs, and revenue enhancement capability," he said. "I don't think the objective is privatization but to be able to look at specific areas of the needs of the hospital."

No, Oh are top GCA high school graduates

DA BIN NO
Valedictorian

JAE KWANG OH
Salutatorian

Grace Christian Academy bestowed its highest academic honors on Da Bin No and Jae Kwang Oh, who were hailed valedictorian and salutatorian of this year's batch of high school graduates. The GCA Class of 2012 was presented their diplomas Friday night on campus.

Da Bin No, 18, is the daughter of Won Ei No and Sun Young Kang. She led this year's graduating class of 24 high school students and was named recipient of other awards and recognition, including A honor roll, highest GPA, and the school's prestigious Eagle Award, which was presented by Rev. Raymond Kinsella and principal Marsha Owens.

No recognized her parents, mentors, friends, and peers for being instrumental in the success of her high school journey. No will pursue college in Korea and plans to major in international studies or English.

In her valedictory address, No urged her fellow graduates to continue to strive for excellence.

"A life spent making mistakes is not only more honorable, but more useful than a life spent doing nothing. Diligence overcomes intelligence. Never give up on what you want to do. I have no doubt that each and every one of you will turn out to be very successful. You have the potential. Never doubt yourself and keep trying. Success is not about numbers. It's about loving and enjoying what you are doing," she said.

This year's salutatorian, Jae Kwang Oh, will further his education at Northern Marianas College where he will pursue his dream of becoming a teacher.

The 18-year-old Oh was also the recipient of other special recognitions including principal's list and A honor roll.

The Eagle Award runner-up honor went to Xiao Mei Su, who also emerged as the class' third honorable mention. Other awardees include: Jo Micah Cabrera, first honorable mention; Lauren Nicole Hofschneider, second honorable mention; Xiao Mei Su, third honorable mention. Five others receive honorable mention awards: Moon Bin Hong, Edward Angelo Salas, Dae Min Jeon, Anthony Borja, and Joice Santos. ***(Moneth Deposa)***

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501 signatures for Saipan casino initiative submitted to OAG

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Proponents of a Saipan casino popular initiative submitted to the Office of the Attorney General on Thursday afternoon 501 signatures, much less than the estimated 2,500 required to place the casino question on the Nov. 6 ballot.

Dr. Jack Angello said Friday that the 501 signatures he submitted Thursday are just the "initial submission," and that he would continue to work to get some 2,000 more signatures within the 30-day late filing period. He said the 501 signatures included that of the governor.

» Group says this is only 'initial' submission, targets 2,500 signatures in 30 days

"We are asking the attorney general to follow the NMI Administrative Code 5-50-245 and accept our late filing submission, which I believe falls in line with the island way of doing things," he told *Saipan Tribune*, referring to the practice of doing things at the last minute, and in this case, of people signing the initiative right before the deadline.

Angello said the group still has lots of packets circulating, and is encouraging people to continue to sign the petitions.

He said the group will have a meeting today for the "real push" to be able to gather the needed number of signatures for the question of whether or not Saipan voters want to legalize casino gaming on Saipan be placed on the ballot this coming midterm elections.

"We are not giving up, and we hope people will really see that we are in serious economic jeopardy. This has a definite prospect to generate revenues," Angello said.

The CNMI budget has gone from over $200 million to $102 million in just a span of a few years, forcing the government to implement 16-hour work cuts biweekly to still keep everyone instead of allowing them to lose their jobs.

In the cover letter of his filing with the OAG on Thursday, Angello said "Any further signatures needed will be submitted prior to the deadline for the 'Accepted Late-filed Petitions Regarding Commonwealth-wide or Local Law,' pursuant to NMI Administrative Code 5-50-245."

That NMIAC provisions says, "All initiative or referendum petitions regarding amendments to Commonwealth-wide or local laws submitted with the required number of signatures to the attorney general… no later (sic) one-hundred and twenty days prior to the next general election shall be accepted late-filed initiative petitions. The attorney general will accept all such accepted late-filed initiative petitions for certification. The attorney general shall not certify any petitions that are submitted after this deadline."

Manglona

In February 2005, the attorney general at the time stated in response to questions about late-filing: "Petitions for Commonwealth-wide or local initiatives are not required to be filed 150 days prior to general elections."

The AG had said, "The attorney general has proposed the early and late filing periods to attempt to spread out the time during which it receives petitions for certification. It has encouraged individuals to file during the early period (150 days before elections) by giving them an opportunity to gather more signatures if too many signatures are struck."

"Individuals can file petitions for Commonwealth-wide or local initiatives as late as 120 days before general election. Individuals filing during the late but acceptable period will not, however, given a second chance to collect more signatures," the AG said in an opinion published in the Feb. 17, 2005, *Commonwealth Register.*

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) hopes the proponents of the Saipan casino popular initiative will be able to gather the required number of signatures "so that people can decide on the issue once and for all."

If the popular initiative fails, Manglona believes its proponents will come back to the Legislature again and push for the passage of a bill legalizing casino gaming on Saipan.

The Senate killed two House bills legalizing casino operations on Saipan in 2010 and 2012.

In between, the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation introduced and passed a local bill to legalize casinos on Saipan but Gov. Benigno R. Fitial vetoed the local bill, saying legalizing casino gaming through local legislation instead of through Commonwealth-wide law is unconstitutional.

Saipan voters also twice rejected legalizing casino gaming on Saipan.

Proponents of the repeal of Article 12 or the land alienation provision of the NMI Constitution are also having difficulty mustering enough signatures to place the question on the Nov. 6 ballot. Instead, they are now working to place the question on the ballot in the November 2014 general elections.

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New indictment filed vs Miah, Mirano

The U.S. government filed Thursday in federal court a superseding indictment against Mohammad Jahangir Miah and co-defendant Earl Eric Mirano in the scheme to cash fraudulent CNMI tax refund checks.

The new (replacement) indictment charged Miah and Mirano with bank fraud and conspiracy to commit bank fraud.

The new indictment added the charge of bank fraud and removed Cecilia Blas as defendant.

On Thursday, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona dismissed without prejudice the criminal case against Blas at the prosecution's recommendation. That means the U.S. government can re-file a new suit on the same claim in the future.

Blas is the reportedly Miah's girlfriend. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

CHC

From Page 1

tween the House and Senate since its introduction in December, until a conference committee was formed to come up with a "compromise" version of the bill.

Part of that House-Senate compromise was passage of a separate bill that would change the CHC board from an "advisory" to a "governing" body.

CHC had been lobbying for the passage of the compromise House Bill 17-278, originally authored by Rep. Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan). CHC was receiving $38 million government subsidy before it became a corporation in fiscal year 2012 when it got only $5 million in seed money.

Fitial also certified the over-the-cap salaries of four CHC doctors on June 5.

The Salary Amendment Act of 1992 sets the salary ceiling for government employees at $50,000. The law, however, gives the governor the authority to waive the ceiling, and submit a certification to the Legislature.

Fitial certified and granted his approval of a $200,000 annual salary for Dr. Florence Susan Schenker, an emergency room physician at CHC; $180,000 annual salary for Dr. Jeri Manning, a general surgeon physician at CHC; and $139,000 and $130,000 annual salary, respectively, for Dr. Yousef Yassin Turshani and Dr. Tiffany Fangtse Lin, both pediatricians at CHC.

TROOP

From Page 1

Superior Court today, Monday, for his initial appearance.

Superior Court associate judge Joseph N. Camacho signed the warrant for the arrest of the 31-year-old Reyes on June 4, for the charges of burglary, theft, and criminal mischief. He imposed an $11,250 cash bail.

Acting DPS commissioner Ambrosio Ogumoro earlier stated that police have made several attempts to locate Reyes at his house and have contacted family and friends, hoping he would surrender.

The U.S. Army Reserve Center's troop store was burglarized on May 30 and the suspect was caught on surveillance camera committing the crime.

Reported stolen were a 32-inch Panasonic LCD flat screen TV, HP 201 monitors, and Bose portable music systems, all estimated to cost over $1,500.

Police investigation showed that the suspect used a bolt cutter to cut the padlock on a shipping container used as a storage room of the troop store.

MHS

From Page 1

ma, Teejay Valenzuela, Mary Ann Waing, Antonio M. Cabrera, Erene Rose S., Allison Palattao, Sophia Sablan, Beverly S. Isip, Frederick John C. Delos Santos, Melody Margaret Johnson, Loralee Sablan, Janet R. Estrellado, Angelito Trinidad Gutierrez, Aurora F. David, Jacklyn M. Garote, and David Kiyoshi P. Hosono.

Under the instruction of agriculturist Isidoro T. Cabrera, the group tilled the 40 feet by 60 feet plot behind Building D, planting vegetable seeds and cultivating them since the beginning of the class in March.

On Thursday, the students harvested their first crop of white radish, okra, peanuts, cucumber, eggplants, and green onion—just a few of the other local produce they've sown like string beans, cassava, sweet potato, tomato, bush beans, and sweet corn.

Heedless of the sun's scorching rays, Maria Theresa Elizabeth Dizon showed off the green onions they've been growing in their small plot.

"Nobody thought I would do this farming class because I've always been the girly type," said Dizon, who was in a black sleeveless tank top, fuchsia skirt, and gray flats. "But when I started high school, I wanted to try different things."

Dizon's interest was piqued when the after-school agriculture class was offered by NMTI at MHS, thanks to a grant funding that also made possible the instructional classes for other courses like entrepreneurship, sales and marketing, and even lifeguarding.

"It wasn't difficult at all, especially since you're learning from a great teacher who persevered to teach us. We were a group of dedicated people in class," she said.

To be among those who went out and stayed under the sun to plant and nurture the crops "gives me that sense of pride" and a feeling of amazement and excitement, said the MHS lass.

"My favorite part was growing something I could eat. I'll never underestimate a farmer again," said Dizon, 15.

According to agriculturist Cabrera, he merely gave instructions and guidelines to the students and they were the ones who learned hands-on by doing the labor-intensive aspects of the class.

"I knew that the students who remained in class until the very end are those who are committed to learn about the basics of agriculture, so I'm really proud of them," Cabrera told *Saipan Tribune*. "It's a great start to try to convince more students that there are lots of good things about farming, including earning big money."

NMTI founding president Tony Pellegrino attended Thursday's open house to personally hand the certificates and congratulate the students for a job well done.

"I'm really excited about this venture and I'm proud of this group of young farmers. The involvement of these young minds is the beginning of a bigger, brighter agriculture industry for the CNMI. It's going to motivate their parents and other people. It will boomerang in our community," said Pellegrino.

According to him, Saipan could actually become the "food basket of Guam" since it has twice the available agricultural plots. He noted that Saipan should be kept a rural community and let Guam become the urban island.

With the success of the pilot agricultural class, Pellegrino said NMTI is now looking at expanding the program to Kagman, Saipan Southern, and even Tinian Jr./Sr. high schools.

"We have to educate our young people who are still malleable and can be trained. Agriculture is the second most important industry in our developing nation and we have thousands and thousands of acres of land that we can utilize to grow crops," he said.

Vice principal John Davis also expressed amazement at what the class was able to accomplish. "These came out of the ground. You grew all these. This is what you can do. I'm so proud of you."

Principal Cherlyn Cabrera, who visited the young farmers' plot and bought some of their produce, said the agriculture class was part of the school's elective that teach young learners' minds about viable industries and careers for their future.

"We know how important farmers are and the agriculture industry. There's a lot of room for that on Saipan. We just wanted to show the kids that and they've been very active and involved," she said.

Cabrera acknowledged the successful partnership between MHS and NMTI to bring learning and education to students and hopefully enhance the program in the future.

"With someone as successful as these kids were in this class, along with their enthusiasm, that trickles and becomes more effective in stimulating the interest of other students. The interest is there, which is great," she added.

The bubbly Dizon reveals that even her parents were encouraged to plant something in their own backyard, even asking their only child to get them seeds that they would plant.

"Like what Mr. Pellegrino told us before, these are diamonds on the ground," said Dizon, smiling.

FEDS

From Page 1

future and urge the Commonwealth government to conclude negotiations quickly," Sablan said over the weekend.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when asked for comment, said Gov. Benigno R. Fitial acknowledges Vilsack's decision "and is grateful that USDA has agreed to revisit the MOU conditions to include the flexibility of allowing the CNMI to access grant funds beyond the initial grant year."

"Since his meeting with FNS Administrator Audrey Rowe, Governor Fitial is further grateful that the FNS has taken a more active approach toward curtailing the governor's concerns regarding the need for increased enforcement of food stamp benefits trafficking," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

The USDA-funded food stamp program is administered locally by the Nutrition Assistance Program under the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) said yesterday it's about time the Fitial administration seriously look into possible mismanagement and incompetence at NAP or DCCA, pointing to the overspending and the de-obligation of $4.5 million in food stamp money that the CNMI did not use for years.

'Overspending'

Rowe, in a May 25 letter to Sablan, said the CNMI NAP budget was approved with an average benefit level of $242 per household for fiscal year 2012, an increase of some $42, based on the number of participating households in June 2011.

But the CNMI instead gave an average of $273 per household—some $31 more per household than agreed upon.

Rowe said the CNMI recently advised FNS that the CNMI was again experiencing a budget shortfall and would need to reduce the benefits and/or begin waitlisting eligible citizens.

"It was at this time that FNS became aware that instead of issuing benefits at the $242 level approved in the [fiscal year] 2012 budget, CNMI had been issuing benefits at a higher average level of approximately $273," Rowe told Sablan.

Rowe also said the average monthly caseload increased slightly from 3,609 households in fiscal year 2011 to 3,649 households in 2012.

Sablan wrote a May 2 letter to Rowe regarding concerns about an announcement of new benefit cuts that the CNMI government instituted.

Rowe, in her two-page response, said the CNMI can remain within budget and serve eligible households, "with an average benefit level of $242, as originally agreed and approved."

"This level maximizes the benefits of NAP within the current available funding and allows CNMI to serve all eligible NAP recipients," Rowe told Sablan.

The press secretary said he's not aware of the methodology that may have been applied here.

"I will discuss this with DCCA/NAP for further clarification," he said.

The benefit cuts in May was painful for everyone already dealing with work hour cuts, high utility costs, high gas prices and other basic commodities.

Girlie Baloran, 40, said her two children used to receive a total of $121 a month in food stamp benefits, but this was reduced to $80 a month.

"That money is strictly for food, and having a $41 cut is a big loss these days," Baloran, a single parent, told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview on Saturday.

Rowe also pointed out that FNS provided budgetary relief to the CNMI in two separate occasions in the last three years.

First, in fiscal year 2009, the CNMI was given a 13.6-percent increase in funding to match the increases provided under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to other jurisdictions, including Puerto Rico and American Samoa.

Second, in fiscal year 2012, the CNMI was allotted a one-time funding increase of $1 million. This was in response to the CNMI's projected shortfall and its actions of cutting benefit issuance to an average of some $200 per household per month, and to eliminate a backlog of "unserved, eligible citizens."

Decisions to be made

Rowe said FNS will continue to provide technical assistance and work with the NAP leadership to maximize funding and provide a stable benefit to NAP households by developing a plan to more accurately project changes in NAP participation that would impact the amount of the block grant each year.

"Toward this end, CNMI must make appropriate programmatic decisions to remain within the amount of available funding under the block grant," she said.

Sablan, in a follow up letter to Rowe, asked for more oversight from FNS to avoid a similar problem in the future and suggested that this uncertainty and disruption in families struggling to feed themselves would not happen if the CNMI were in the national Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP.

Manglona echoed Sablan's sentiment about the advantages of SNAP over the block grant system, which the CNMI continues to avail of.

The Fitial administration does not want the CNMI to go under SNAP, despite Sablan and experts' insistence that SNAP will bring in more benefits to food stamp recipients of $10 million to $20 million, as well as multiplier effect on the local economy of some $12 million to $24 million.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial has remained opposed to SNAP because the CNMI has to shoulder 50 percent or $500,000 to $700,000 of the administrative cost, though Sablan and other lawmakers said the multiplier effect on the economy easily makes up for half of the administrative cost.

Manglona said he hopes the governor "does not continue to hold on to block grant only because he does not agree with Kilili."

$4.5 million de-obligated

Vilsack, in a June 5 letter responding to Sablan's Feb. 23 letter, said the $4.5 million in de-obligated funds could not be restored.

USDA's FNS de-obligated the money that the CNMI did not spend because the period of availability for the grant funds, which included balances for fiscal years 2007 through 2011, had expired.

DCCA Secretary Melvin Faisao, back in February when the de-obligation was announced, said the money was reserved and earmarked for an electronic benefit transfer system that the CNMI still does not have even after years of being given the money for it.

Sablan said over the weekend that he asked Vilsack in February to reconsider this decision, "which hardly makes sense at the same time that the CNMI has been cutting benefits, cutting staff hours, and putting eligible recipients on waitlists."

Vilsack referred the question to his Office of General Counsel, which confirmed that the MOU that the CNMI negotiates with USDA each year limits the food stamp grant to a single fiscal year.

But Vilsack, in his one-page letter to Sablan, said USDA reopened the current MOU to permit a carryover of grant funds beyond the initial grant year.

"We anticipate this language would be included in subsequent MOUs to allow CNMI this flexibility on an ongoing basis. This should facilitate CNMI ability to more fully utilize each year's funding," Vilsack told Sablan.

Guard: 50-50 chance of destructive typhoon by year's end

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan, Tinian, and Rota have an estimated 50-50 chance of being hit by a destructive typhoon by the end part of this year, according to Weather Forecast Office Guam meteorologist Charles "Chip" Guard.

Guard told *Saipan Tribune* in an email that the destructive typhoon would likely be a Category 1 (minimal typhoon), Category 2 (moderate typhoon), or Category 3 (strong typhoon).

He predicts the destructive typhoon to occur on Saipan and Tinian in September, October, or November, and on Rota in October, November, or December.

Guard said the three islands may also have one to two additional typhoon threats during the same period.

"Keep in mind that these predictions can change as the typhoon season progresses," he said.

For the Northern Islands, Guard said that Agrihan, Pagan, or Alamagan will likely experience one direct hit from a typhoon and one near-miss in August or September.

For the entire CNMI, Guard said their best estimate is that there will be transition from ENSO-neutral to a weak El Niño in August. "The El Niño would most likely peak in December and phase out in the spring," he said.

Guard's tropical storm and typhoon activity predictions for the CNMI are based on a coordinated assessment between the National Weather Service and the Pacific ENSO Applications Climate Center.

Guard said the assessment is based on independent Pacific-wide typhoon predictions, an in-house statistical typhoon study, and the current and predicted states of the El Niño—Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and the historical tropical cyclone activity associated with those ENSO states.

He stressed that these predictions could change over the next few months.

Guard said tropical cyclones generally want to move from southeast to northwest.

"Thus, if a tropical storm or typhoon develops southeast of the CNMI, it will often track toward the islands. If a tropical storm or typhoon develops west or north of the CNMI, it will move away from the islands," he said.

When an El Niño occurs, Guard said, tropical storms and typhoons begin to develop farther to the east and then can move toward the islands.

When a La Niña event occurs, he said, these storms tend to develop west of the islands or near the islands, but move west before significantly intensifying.

"During El Niño events, the chance of Saipan, Rota, or Tinian getting a direct hit triples when compared to the chance during non-El Niño periods," he said.

For the Northern Islands, Guard said the chance of getting a direct hit doubles.

"During the ENSO-neutral state, which is the transition state between El Niño and La Niña, the chance of getting a direct hit by a tropical storm or a typhoon is much better than for La Niña, but not quite as good as for El Niño," he said.

Guard said the CNMI is now in an ENSO-neutral state, having just come out of a La Niña a month or so ago.

For the future, Guard cited three expected options: to remain in the ENSO-neutral state, revert back to La Niña, or transition to El Niño.

He said most are in agreement that the CNMI will either remain in an ENSO-neutral state or transition to an El Niño state.

He said the El Niño is not likely to be strong and will most likely be weak or barely moderate. "This suggests that the typhoons that do develop and threaten the CNMI would be weaker than supertyphoon intensity," he said.

Guard cited that there was a weak to moderate El Niño in 2009 when two supertyphoons—Choi-wan and Melor—hit Alamagan in a two-month period.

He said Melor actually threatened Saipan, but turned toward the Northern Islands a day before it would have arrived on Saipan.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Air Force, Navy training on FDM, Warning Area 517

The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on June 11-15, from 8am to 12:59am. The Navy will conduct training at Warning Area 517 on June 12-13, from 8am to 5pm.

The public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. ***(PR)***

Tanapag Elementary School activities

■ June 11: 4th Quarter report cards and awards certificates to be sent home with students

■ June 12: Last day of classes.

For more information, contact the main office at 664-3425/26/27. ***(PR)***

MHS Class of '83 meeting set

This is to invite members of the MHS Class of 1983 to our next general meeting on June 15, 2012, Friday, at the Garapan Beach Road pavilion. You may contact Tonnei Camacho at 483-9665 for more details. ***(PR)***

Renewal of alcohol license being accepted

The Alcoholic Beverage and Tobacco Control Division is reminding all licensed business establishments that applications for Alcoholic Beverage Control license renewals are now being accepted. Application forms may be obtained at the Department of Commerce located at the Donni Hill Complex, Capital Hill Road, Pohnpei Street. Application forms may be downloaded at www.commerce.gov.mp. The deadline for filing of renewal applications, including payment of fees, is June 30, 2012. For more information, call the ABTC Division at 664-3065. ***(PR)***

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Chamber raises $6K-plus in Corporate Challenge

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce declared the 2012 SCC Corporate Challenge a huge success, as over $6,000 was raised toward the Chamber's 2013 college scholarship program.

Right on the heels of the Chamber awarding five Saipan high school students $2,000 each for their college educations at the Chamber's July 6 general membership meeting, 23 Chamber member companies pledged $300 each and vied for bragging rights on the softball field Saturday from 8am to 8pm.

Over 400 Chamber team players, employees, their families and friends watched games from the bleachers, from under tents and along the roadside at the Capital Hill softball field as ASC Trust Corp. defeated Take Care Insurance, Inc. 7-6 to claim this year's Corporate Challenge. ASC and Take Care received their first and second place trophies respectively at a ceremony held immediately following the games. Coca Cola/Glimpses received the SCC Team Spirit Award for the second consecutive year.

ASC Trust Corp. and Take Care Insurance, Inc. pose with their first and second place trophies at a ceremony held immediately following the Corporate Challenge on Saturday at the Capital Hill softball field. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

This year's Corporate Challenge continued its tradition of providing fun, games, sizzling barbecue, corporate displays, music, a company outing opportunity and worn out team players by day's end.

Those companies contributing $300 each and gaining entry into the single elimination softball tournament were Microl Corp., Triple J Saipan Ent., IT&E, DFS Galleria, ASC Trust Corp., CNMI Commerce-SBDC, Bank of Guam, G4S Security, Delta Management, Asian Pacific Hotels, Inc., Pacific Trading Co., First Hawaiian Bank, CUC, D&Q Saipan, Coca Cola/Glimpses, JC Tenorio Ent., Take Care Insurance, Xerox Corp., CNMI Cable Vision LLC, Marpac, IP&E and Saipan Shipping Co. and Pacific Islands Club.

The Chamber gives special thanks to firms supplying trophies (Tan Holdings), electricity for the ball field (CUC), Coca Cola for beverages for the players, KKMP for the PA system, MCV for prizes, IP&E for prizes, PIC for water park passes, PTC for gift certificates, Take Care for prizes, Marpac for prizes, IT&E for giveaways, Marfega Trading for prizes and the Chamolinian Soft Ball Association for umpiring and maintaining the field. ***(SCC)***

New $15 hotel fee on July 1

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Effective July 1, operators of hotels and similar facilities in the CNMI are required to collect a new $15 fee on tourists or transient occupants, and the fees collected are to be turned over to the Department of Finance on or before the 20th day of the succeeding month to go toward tourism and environmental programs.

This is the result of a new law that Gov. Benigno R. Fitial signed on Monday.

The government expects to generate some $6 million in revenues from this law to help tourism and environmental programs.

House Speaker Eli Cabrera's (R-Saipan) House Bill 17-290, HD1, SS1 is now Public Law 17-75. This is the first major revenue-generating bill that became law in the 17th Legislature. Moreover, this only amends the two previous versions that were met with concerns by federal and local agencies.

Under the new law, a $15 fee is collected from transients who pay for lodging in a room of a hotel, lodging house, motel, resort motel, apartment, apartment motel, rooming house, condominium, or similar facility located in the CNMI.

The fee is to be assessed one time for each visit or trip to the CNMI.

Funds derived from the $15 fee will be deposited into a revolving fund administered by the Department of Finance and remitted to MVA. These funds will then be used to build, equip, improve, and maintain projects, agencies, and facilities promoting recreation and tourism.

Regardless of the total fees collected, Rota and Tinian's share of that fee will remain the same at $200,000 each island annually, to be used for charter flight tourism incentives and promotional programs.

The two previous pieces of legislation charged a $15 travel fee among tourists from non-U.S. destinations but these were found to be non-compliant with federal laws. The two previous laws required the airlines to collect the fees. Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio earlier told lawmakers that any "head tax" on international travel falls under the jurisdiction of the federal government.

Moreover, the previous bills intended to provide incentives to travel agencies that bring in more tourists from Asian countries to the CNMI and charge passengers from these non-U.S. destinations a $15 travel promotion fee.

The governor also signed Rep. Ralph Demapan's (Cov-Saipan) H.B. 17-293 into Public Law 17-74.

This new law designates and counts $5 million appropriated to the Department of Public Health toward the state share of the required matching funds for Medicaid reimbursements to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

Fitial, at the same time, returned HB 17-17, HD2, SS1, SD1, CCD1 to the House, at the request of the speaker to make more amendments to it.

This bill strengthens penalties for minors consuming alcoholic beverages, and imposes stiffer fines for persons or establishments who provide and sell alcoholic beverages to minors.

"Tymyshoes"
Congratulations
Tyron B. Ermang
Your parents, uncles, aunts, cousins, and friends wish to congratulate you for completing and getting your first post-secondary degree (AA Liberal Arts) from the Northern Marianas College!
Good luck to you as you continue working toward your Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. We know that you have the determination and the ability to accomplish your next goal in higher education. You have our blessings and unconditional love and support for your future endeavor.
Regina & Thomas Ermang
Family & Friends
"Slang It Out"

From left, Diana Benavente (luminaries); Rachel Roque (sponsorship); Nora Sablan (survivors); Catherine Attao-Toves (overall chairwoman); Manny Borja (overall vice chairman); Janine Nogis (t-shirts); Reina Camacho (team recruitment); Dave Guerrero (accounting); David Rosario (CCA president); Abed Younis (Younis Art Studio); Dr. Jack Hardy (senior advisor); Alex Sablan (CCA board member); Frances T. Demapan (Joeten Charitable Foundation); Evan Hunsburger (Pacific Islands Club); Jeff Boyer (IP&E); Bridgette Camacho (Bodig); Jocelyn Deleon Guerrero (Bodig); Darlene Macaranas (Joeten Charitable Foundation); Marcie Tomokane (Bank of Guam); Glorina Teuira (logistics); Christopher A. Concepcion (public relations); and Juan L. Babauta (CCA program manager).

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

2012 MMAC committee honors sponsors, teams

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 2012 Marianas March Against Cancer hosted a luncheon on May 30 to honor the sponsors and teams that have supported the annual cancer fundraising event since its inception in 2002.

The luncheon, held at the Chalan Kanoa Beach Hotel, recognized title sponsors Bank of Guam, DFS Saipan, Ltd., IT&E, Joeten Charitable Foundation, and Sorensen Media Group Saipan.

Major sponsors were also acknowledged at the event, namely Hopwood Jr. High School, IP&E, Saipan Mayor's Office, and Younis Art Studio.

The committee also paid tribute to longest participating teams Ahu, Bodig, and Pacific Islands Club.

Overall committee chair Catherine Attao-Toves said each of the invited sponsors and teams were given a plaque thanking them for their support in the fight against cancer for the past decade.

"We look forward to their continued support in the years ahead," she added.

MMAC is the signature fundraising event of the Commonwealth Cancer Association, a volunteer-led non-profit organization that ensures all funds raised are spent entirely in the CNMI on cancer patient support services, awareness programs, and other activities.

This year's MMAC, held at the Hopwood Jr. High School grounds on April 27 to 28, raised about $111,470 in monetary and in-kind contributions.

For more information about CCA, visit www.ccamarianas.org, email cca@ccamarianas.org, or call 682-0050.

Message of Appreciation

I wish to express a sincere appreciation to all the people that have helped in the fundraisers for the money to enter into something I have longed and dreamt of. Thank you for continuously taking your time to either sale or even just buying lunch. I will truly forever be grateful to you all when I succeed in the future when I become a part of the medical field. I know that the economy is bad but even just five dollars from each one of you had helped me to pay off the tuition for this forum.

A very special thanks to my parents, Cynthia and Rick Camacho for doing everything for me to go on this trip. To my Nana, Merced Reyes, for cooking all the delicious food, to my Auntie and Uncle, Marge and Angel Reyes who helped prepare and cook. To the support crew, Dionne, Dame, Jacky, Ana, Rayanne and Hope, I appreciate everything you guys have done.

I was accepted to attend the National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine to be held at the University of California Los Angeles from June 24 – July 3, 2012. Upon completion, I will be earning college credits from the George Mason University, which is a partner of the Forum.

Rikki Carmen Reyes Camacho

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RP hospital seeks better collaboration with CNMI

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Physicians from the Manila-based Asian Hospital and Medical Center were on island last week to check out what they could do it improve their services to the medical community of the Commonwealth.

Led by Asian Hospital and Medical Center president Dr. Jorge M. Garcia, the group held presentations at the Hyatt Regency Saipan on Wednesday, focusing on the services they provide to patients transferred to their facility.

Garcia

Asian Hospital and Medical Center is a 217-bed facility located in the southern part of Metro Manila. This state-of-the-art medical center has over 900 employees and 160 outsourced staff, all trained to provide personalized patient care, according to materials disseminated by presenters.

"The main purpose of our visit is we would like to improve our capability on how we provide medical care to patients from Saipan. We need their feedback so we can further improve our services…because we believe that there's nothing that can replace communication," Garcia told *Saipan Tribune* after his presentation.

Wednesday's presentation was mostly before members of the Commonwealth Health Center medical staff and representatives from the Medical Referral Office.

According to CNMI Medical Referral Program director Ronald Sablan, the Asian Hospital and Medical Center is one of the medical facilities where the CNMI refers patients to and has been providing care to CNMI patients for five years now.

Although there are some unavoidable issues and concerns that sometimes arise in the process, Garcia and Sablan described them as more on the logistics of transferring patients to the center.

Besides the target collaboration with the CNMI, the visiting doctors also outlines the center's services, especially in the field of heart surgery and cardiac care. Garcia cited the years of training and practice of the center's physicians in U.S. hospitals as the great advantage of the Asian Hospital and Medical Center.

Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* that the physicians' visit is much appreciated by his office, which counts on a strong partnership with the center.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Jun. 11, 1999

CNMI's investment potential gets boost from APPU
The recently-held Asian-Pacific Parliamentarians' Union has afforded the CNMI a chance to attract interests from lawmakers in the region who could help the government promote tourism and investment potential of the island. This was the assessment of Senate Vice President Thomas P. Villagomez, chair of the steering committee of the 65th Council Meeting of APPU, an organization of legislators in 23 countries from across Asia and the Pacific. "I am very satisfied with the result of the meeting," he said in an interview, adding it has reaffirmed the mutual interests of all member nations of APPU.

MVA plans 'facelift' for Garapan
After years of neglect, the beach area on the island's commercial district of Garapan will finally get a facelift with tourism and environment officials working out a plan that will also ensure the safety of the tourist. Marianas Visitors Authority Managing Director Perry J. Tenorio said Garapan's beach area from Dai-Ichi to Hyatt Hotels will be included in the beautification project of the commercial district. According to MVA managing director Perry J. Tenorio, the tourism agency has tapped the Coastal Resources Management's help in making sure that the banana boat and jet ski operators do not cause any accident to tourists who are swimming within the area.

Jun. 11, 2002

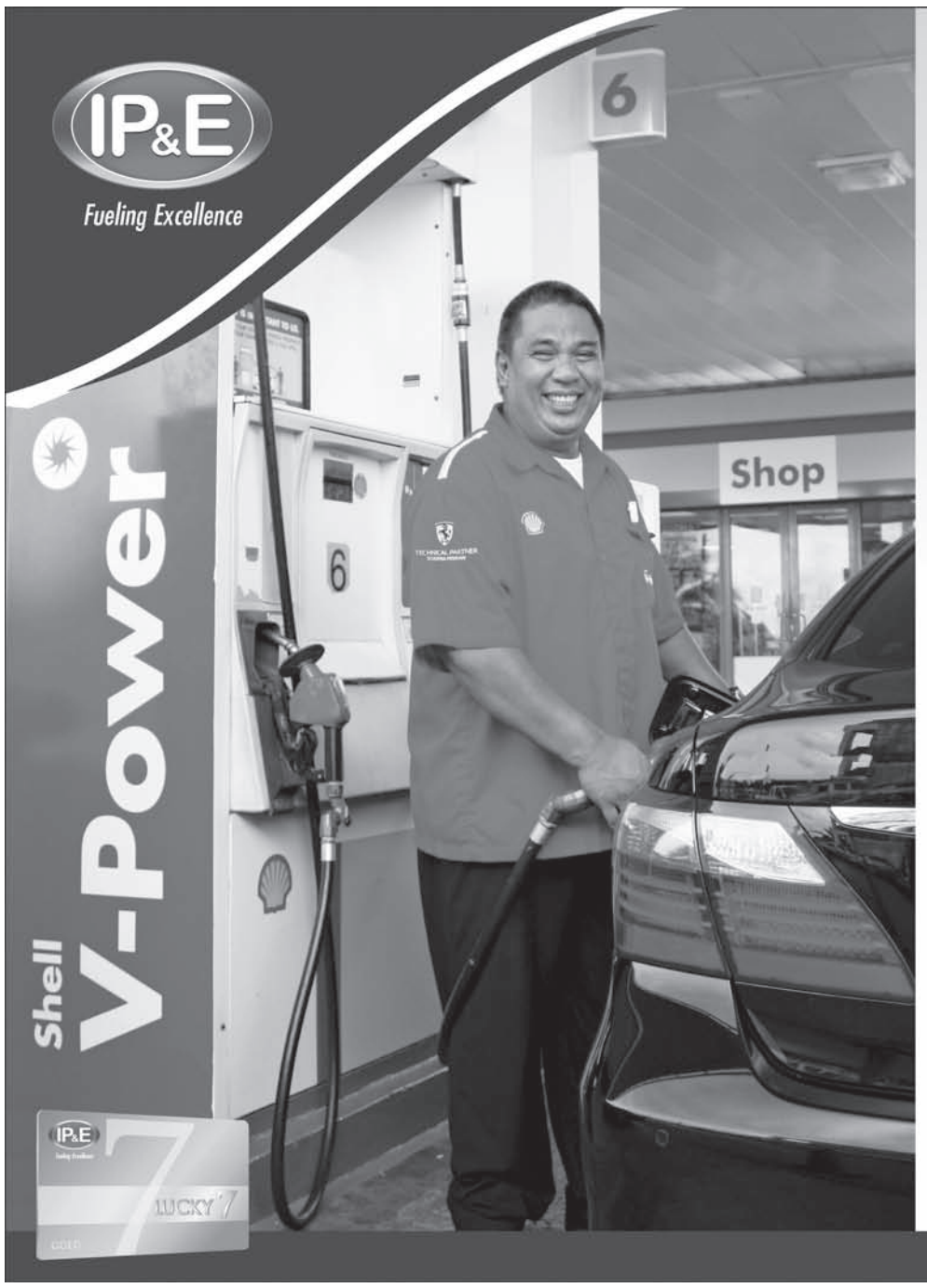
SGMA reinstates factory into association
The Saipan Garment Manufacturers Association has reinstated Mariana Fashions, Inc. into its membership rankings after lengthy technical discussions with the association's Board of Directors, SGMA's compliance committee, and factory owners and management. The company had petitioned SGMA for re-entry, as stipulated in MFI's suspension order from SGMA, effective May 3, 2002. The firm was re-entered as a "Member in Partial Compliance" under the adopted Association and Committee Rules. In announcing MFI's re-entry, SGMA Chairman James C. Lin said, "With the collaborative effort of our association's compliance committee, and the factory's willingness to come into compliance with the SGMA Code of Conduct, we have demonstrated the ability of our internal programs to re-claim this factory, its jobs and the revenue it provides to the island."

HR Society to discuss workers compensation
The Commonwealth's chapter of the Society of Human Resource Management, the CNMI's professional personnel organization, will hold its monthly membership meeting on Thursday, June 13, at the Giovanni's Restaurant of the Hyatt Regency Saipan. First speaker on the agenda is Ron Smith of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce. Smith will provide a synopsis of the Chamber's new website "Jobs On-Line" and how CNMI employers can access the web site and use it to post job vacancies. The main focus of the luncheon meeting will be lead by Takeo George, manager of the CNMI Workers Compensation Commission.

Jun. 11, 2003

BoS checks now OK with 3 local banks
The Bank of Saipan yesterday disclosed that it has reestablished local check-clearing relationships with most Northern Marianas-based banking institutions, adding that some businesses have also resumed accepting new BoS checks. BoS receiver Antonio Muna said that the bank has reestablished local check-clearing ties with the Bank of Hawaii, First Hawaiian Bank, and City Trust Bank since Wednesday last week, which means that BoS checks may now be deposited in and cleared with these banking companies. Earlier, the BoS has reestablished relationship with the Federal Reserve Bank, allowing for the clearing of its checks off-island.

Govt reminds airlines of SARS travel policy
Airlines companies have been advised that violation of the existing ban on travelers from SARS hotspots would be meted out with penalties, including costs on passenger repatriation processes. In a letter addressed to all airline companies, acting director of immigration Antonio Sablan said airline companies servicing the Northern Marianas are ordered to refrain from bringing in passengers from areas with severe acute respiratory symptom like China, Hong Kong, Toronto, and Taiwan. Sablan said the travel ban applies to all non-U.S. citizens, including those with valid authorization for entry, authorization to board, re-entry letters, valid entry permits, and valid U.S. visas.



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Saturday, June 16, 2012
NMC's Building A

The workshop will be an ongoing session, so participants can stop by any time between 9:00am and 3:00pm.

Although not required for entry to the workshop, please bring the following documents to help you complete the scholarship forms at the workshop:

1. ID: Passport, Birth Certificate, or Green Card
2. Official Transcript (3 Official Copies)
3. Tax Forms: Your or your parents' signed 2011 1040 form (2011 W-2 statements if you and/or your parents did not or will not file taxes)
4. Proof of CNMI residency for 2010 and 2011 (for example, CNMI 1040 tax form, Employment Verification from your employer, Official Transcripts, Voter's Certification, etc.)

The Cash for College Workshop is made possible through funds from the U.S. DOE, College Access Challenge Grant

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

New soda wars: infringement on freedoms?

We have problems with New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg's proposal to ban large-size sugary sodas. But like our beef with Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter's attempt to tax sugary drinks back in 2010, our objection is mostly based on practical considerations.

Bloomberg wants to ban the sale of sugary sodas over 16 ounces in restaurants, theaters and other outlets. But anyone wanting a bigger gulp in one sitting merely has to buy two cups of a lesser amount—and we're betting manufacturers are already gearing up production of 15.5-ounce cups. Nutter's proposal was also logistically problematic, since only the state, not the city, can impose an excise tax on a specific product; the mayor's tax would have likely led to a price hike on all beverages, not just sugared ones.

But most of the objections to Bloomberg's proposal are not based on logistics; they're based on "freedoms" and the "nanny state." Two comments on the New York Post website sums up much of the outcry: "This is about liberty. … Simply put, what Bloomberg is doing is un-American and freedom-loving people need to inundate the statist creep with protests."

Here's another: "Seriously? So it's up to you and Bloomie to decide for me and my children via the Nanny Police state? This is supposed to be a free country. And it used to be."

It's fun to pretend that we live in a time unequaled in government interference, and even more fun to pretend that we remember a time the government was far less intrusive. To that, we have two words: Oliver Cromwell.

The 17th-century "Lord Protector" of the British Commonwealth, Cromwell was said to have banned mincemeat pies because they were, essentially, too tasty and led to louche lifestyles. That's not the earliest incident of a "nanny state," but only one point on a long timeline of government banning things it thinks are dangerous—like cigarettes, or cocaine, or beef from mad cows. The rationale is that government must bear the cost of the bad effects of these things. And in the case of sugar, that cost is huge, in obesity and its many related illnesses. In fact, earlier this year, a team of scientists argued that sugar is so toxic it should be considered a controlled substance.

Those fretting about the "nanny state" claim that the government has no right to tell us how to behave, and those who must have their 32-ounce big gulps are exercising their personal freedom. Really? We believe the decision to drink a quart of unhealthy soda is less tied to individual will and more tied to the billions that soda giants Coke and Pepsi spend on enticing us to want their product.

This battle isn't about Bloomberg and freedom-loving Americans. It's really a battle between the marketplace and government. You may think the marketplace is a benign provider of only good things that should be free of government interference. You may think you want a giant soda because you're "free," and not because Coke's advertising might have manipulated you to consume as much of their addictive product as possible. In which case, you are not crying over the loss of your human rights. You're crying because someone is taking your bottle away. In which case, you may need a nanny, after all.

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President Obama, these drone strikes on our territory are not helping relations between us ONE BIT !...
AL QAIDA
PAKISTAN
MARGULIES
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www.northjersey.com/margulies

Where do we go from here?

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is a former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

Each week I sit and consider what I should discuss that may help our community to lift itself out of the morass we have sank into. Let's walk down memory lane together and see if you have similar feelings as I do. The following account is from personal recollection, not a historical tracing of events. So correct me if my recollections are a bit different from yours.

I recall arriving on Saipan in 1984, to a community vibrant with hope for the future. The tourist market was about 150,000 people annually and just starting. The Hyatt Regency, the Saipan Grand Hotel, the Haifadai Hotel and what is now named the Fiesta Resort an Spa Saipan were the only hotels to my recollections. Since then we have had several more hotels added such as the Pacific Island Club, the Aqua Resort Club, the now closed Hotel Nikko, and Marianas Resort and Spa. Oh, yes, I almost forgot the Plumeria Hotel, now a deserted crumbling building. That was about it. Our major tourists were Japanese. Saipan seemed to be on a positive up.

Ever wonder if the following event had not happened what would have been our present state? About the late '80s or early '90s the garment industry popped up and things began to change. Thousands of Chinese workers surged to Saipan with over 30 factories opening up across the island.

About the same time Korean tourists discovered us and as they began to come here and the Japanese began to leave. Somehow we had offended the Japanese. I recall the problem about the Hotel Nikko and its landowners. Japan Airlines simply said goodbye. Our numbers began to drop.

But because of the upsurge of the garment factories, money began to flow like wine. The government became rich and foolish. But like all bubbles the garment industry bubble burst. In a few years the factories began to close and the workers began to leave. Without any thought what this would mean to our economy, the government kept its spending ways, not considering that perhaps it would be prudent to save some money for the future.

Before this happened, the CNMI was mainly a tourist and an agriculture economy, but the agriculture vocation was deserted as more of our people flocked to the garment industry and to employment in the government.

The government, flush with money, continued employing many more employees than it needed. We began to import more and more of our daily necessities. Why not? We had the money. But the administration also neglected to pay into the pension fund while deducting money from employees' salaries. What a crime! But no one complained. The party was in full swing.

When in 2009, the last garment factory closed its doors and money became scarce, the party continued. Pension money did not go into the intended fund, but no one noticed or cared. Tourism at one time hit a high of over 700,000. Sad to say, we did little to make sure that that high number would continue. We just assumed that Saipan was the destination to come to.

The effects of these events made little impression on us. We also failed to be aware of the U.S. Congress slowly questioning our ability to control our own borders. They had received many complaints about labor abuses to which we did little to correct. Yes, we just kept merrily rolling along. Meanwhile our careless inattention to the events happening to us slowly began to show their dire ramifications. Isn't this similar to most major life threatening diseases when left unnoticed? Aren't many of them cured if attended to early in their manifestation stages? But sadly we ignored all the warnings.

Now let's see where we are today. Our tourist market, our only major industry, is floundering at about 300,000 to 350,000 annually. The pension fund is in bankruptcy, government workers are putting in only 32 hours weekly, our utilities company is grasping for funds to pay its fuel bills, and the Commonwealth Health Center is slowly falling into a coma. Meanwhile many of our citizens are deserting the islands, leaving behind their houses with unpaid mortgages. And our legislators and the administration are arguing with each other as never before, busily pointing fingers at each other. Well, what do we do now?

The saddest part of all this is that we have become a divided community. What was once a closely knit and cooperative one is now widely divided. See how the Legislature and the administration disagree daily. So where do we go from here?

There are acres diamonds that we have not cultivated yet. Acres of diamond are in our fallow land, waiting patiently to be cultivated. We must eat. The heavily populated island of Guam must eat. Guam grows very little locally while importing most of their food from offshore. Recall that Guam has over 1 million tourists a year, over 160,000 population, add to that thousands of military troops who have to eat at least three times daily.

Collected from recent USDA statistics, Guam has about 13,376 acres of farmable land, but the CNMI has a total of over 117,760 acres of farmable land. Guam has about 104 farmers, but the CNMI has over 256 farmers. I could continue plying us with more statistics, but the point is that by now we realize the diamonds lying under our feet are in farming! We must cultivate our land and receive its bountiful fruits. Farming is one of the most productive ways to lift ourselves up. Besides feeding ourselves, our next door neighbor—Guam—is waiting for us to supply them. From that harvest will come a harvest of money, labor, and pride.

The other acres of diamonds are lying in the bountiful ocean. It too, like land, can grow the seafood we long for. There is little need to import from other parts of the world. Cultivating the ocean can be in the form of aquaculture such as shrimp or tilapia on shore or in the ocean itself for various other fish.

But wait a minute—that is hard work! We prefer the air-conditioned offices and the free food stamps. Well, okay have it your way. I am merely suggesting that we can help ourselves.

Remember the man standing on the roof of his home while the

See WHERE on Next Page

The Pinoy on the twelfth of June

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) previously taught at San Vicente Elementary School on Saipan and is currently a guest lecturer at Shenyang Aerospace University in China.

Historical accounts narrate a proclamation of an independent Philippine Islands by Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo on June 12, 1898, at Kawit, Cavite, shortly after the American naval force of Admiral Dewey reportedly "defeated" the Spanish Armada in the Battle of Manila Bay. Neither the United States nor Spain recognized Aguinaldo's autocracy. Instead, the U.S. paid for the Philippines from Spain in the 1898 Treaty of Paris that concluded the Spanish-American War.

Apolinario Mabini (remembered in Guam) found it offensive that the declaration actually put the archipelago under the sovereign care of the United States, rectifying it in the Malolos Convention. While at it, Aguinaldo's dictatorship was replaced by democratic republicanism.

It was 48 years after, on July 4, 1946, when the archipelago was reeling from the devastation of Imperial Japan's WWII occupation, that the United States found it less expensive to relinquish the rebuilding the area to native oligarchs.

A glance at the membership of the 1935 Philippine Commonwealth reveals that the majority of the current Philippine Legislature comes from the same families blessed by their American mentors who held their hands after the market crash of '29.

The long shadow cast by the Clark Air Force and Subic Naval bases before Pinatubo covered it with ashes include the Bush's covert operations in Mindanao to the present swagger of Leon Panetta showing hawkish talons in his sunset years, Hillary adding pounds spouting belligerent State Department lines, and President Noynoy's acquiescence to oil interests in South China Sea.

This is not written in anger—we trained Peace Corps volunteers in Manila in the '80s, was a faithful cleric to the Midwest's United Methodist Church for 40 years, and a beltway Mr. Mom to a USAID program officer for a decade)—but in lucid light that Philippine sovereignty, similar to post-colonial nations, remains a definition of the colonial period, and in Pea Eye's case, Uncle Sam's flirt with the theology/ideology of Manifest Destiny.

The oligarchic management of Philippine economy guided by landowning extended families who control 60 percent of the real estate sent 10 percent of the nation's population in diaspora around the world, a curse and a blessing to the national identity, or the absence of one, to become a world-wise street-smart *Pinoy* scattered around the planet.

The historical date of long ago Kawit does not grab our existential attention. It is rather the wonder of the happy-go-lucky celebrative *Pinoy/Pinay* whose hearty laughter and demure giggle echo in every menial and professional position in the world that catches our fancy. This diaspora and its foreign remittances have since been acknowledged as the sole force that keeps the homeland economy afloat.

Some Pinoys prominently run the affairs of many Pacific Islands, not excluding those in the Marianas. At one time, the population of Nauru was divided between the Pinoy office functionaries and manual laborers, and the Cantonese traders who kept the remaining rotund and laid back Nauruans (kin having migrated to places like Brisbane and Honolulu) happily revving up their huge Japan imported motorcycles. Cognizant of this, Tonga found it convenient to limit Pinoys in Nuku'alofa to only six families at any given time!

Its quadricolor red, white, gold and blue hoisted in Kawit long time ago this calendar day made June 12 *Flag Day* awhile. Whether in fact the Filipino really claimed his/her independence from any foreign sovereign is highly questionable.

AmCham's hold on Makati and the bourse, VoA and Roxas Blvd.'s influence on the culture, the patriarchal guardianship of various religious groups whose decision-making loci extends all the way to places like Nashville and Atlanta, Pittsburgh and New York, Kansas and Seattle, points to a heavy reliance on Uncle Sam's role and dole. But the alien hand's finger on the cookie jar is not all American.

Culturally, we froze Sino face by insisting that Guo Huang Guo become Cojuangco but the Guomindang schools of the '50s continued to use Hanja, keeping the Chinatown of the mind intact while Binondo serviced many Hispanic vices. In Marcos' time, it housed the unofficial central bank of the islands.

Malayo flourished in the south but the Sultanate of Sulu ceded sovereignty to its divisive European colonizers. The Bahasa had a short-lived life in the Maphilindo movement of the '50s. Closing my eyes while listening to discourse in Kuala Lumpur and Jakarta in the '70/'80s made me realize that I could easily recognize the cognates of Indo-Malay languages and speak them in due time given the chance. Meeting a multi-lingual Filipina nanny in Singapura leaves one in awe and wonder.

Bombay bazaars have long been mainstays on Rizal St. Japan's ¥en funded the national highway from Aparri to Zamboanga. Korean electronics and appliances with their Protestant pastors sustain Koreatowns in Davao and Cebu. China's bid to transmit telecommunication wavelengths was aborted after it was revealed that Malacañang received a cut.

So what of the *Pinoy* and its soul*?* As is customary in Philippine story-telling, *abangan ang susunod na kabanata* [Watch out for the next episode]*!*

Dibinan Man-magradua

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

Kulan mafuñut i sumen namagof na okasion serimonias graduasion na sakan. Lau oppan maseha silensiu hafa madiseseha ni man-magradua na famaguonta. Hu tuñgu' na megaiña kuestion dispues de mapesa seriosamiente i presente na kondision yan haf' mamamaila'.

Dispues de tumunog i katman serimoñias gi sigiente dia, sige ma-ebalua haf' mohon para umasusede ni mañainan niha 'an manhanau siha man-eskuela gi chagu' na lugat. Haf' mamamaila' para i dos saina 'an chafleg i pottanmonedan familia pot mahuchum i programan man-ritirau? Hafa na ayudu u guaha para siha 'an ma-amot i familia ni primet na guma' niha?

Appottunidat edukasion mas maribaha gi hilu' menos na fondu para programan scholarship. Soluke guaha otro koyenturan umayau salape', hinochum un' ratu planun niha pot appenas fondu pagu na biahe.

Kau siña man-la'la 'an ma'tut pagamientun man-ritirau gi ti apmam yan pagu? U sisiña i dos amku' mamahan amot 'sino apas setbision hinemlo' 'nai magtus fondun pottanmonedan familia?

Kau propiu na u fan ma'agañg tatte famaguon niha gi halom este na chinatsaga kosake siña u fan gaige gi oriya gi te'ug na tirun linala' miserable?

Mampos i ti asegurau na karera hana' fan abarambabau hinassota lau hagas man-trankilu yan pas finaposta gi halom pagyu yan linau.

Lastima i tiempu 'nai sulun i asuntun linahyan siha ginen patman kanai niha. Kulan ma-atisa mañan finatane' 'nai gi mismu tiempu sige dumidog i hagas maletke siha na asuntu. Kau este pagu i añglu' na kahan publiku rekueddon niha?

Mampos te'ug yan makat na ampalo'pu' problema humohogse hit. I uttimu esperansa i para tafan mangagau ausiliu ginen i Nanalibreta. Este ha' esta sosobla na eskalera.

■■■

Tai finagpu' na nessesidat

I nesessidat tautau gi enteru elmundu tai finagpu'. Kulan pañgpañg ekun napu gi rubentasion, oppan yan ti mamagtus. Diariu, bente kuatru oras, siete dias gi semana sinparat ayu na ekun napu. I neñkanu' u appenas gi tiempon ha'ilas kontodu hanom. Este ti namatman sa' esta ha' man-matuge' klaru gi pahinan i biblia siha.

Gi redondun publiku, kahulu' un' kuestion: Haf' siña tachogue para benefisiun todus 'sino mayotmente? Finenina, maila ta kayun benefisiun hinimidde. Este na pisu 'nai siña antau na inadiñgan u oppan gi pagu hu fafaisen na kuestion.

Mampos na tiempu ta sedi i hablan respondot gi hilu' banida na esta ta malefan ñaihon interest i publiku ni silensiu ha pañot chatdisision man-ma'gas niha. Bira tatte i timon señor kapitan ya un' sedi i marineru man-manayuda sa' esta yayas hau.'

Ansiosu lokue' i pasaheru lumi'e na man-safu siha gi kareran niha. Kontodu siha man-listu para uma-esgaihon i batku guatu gi safu na puettu. Sedi pattisipasion. Siempre siha lokue' u dinisidi kau un' magu'ot kumu kapitan gi otru biahen kumarera.

■■■

Konfirensian simienteyu

Hu atrebi fumaisen i amiguhu Buddy Magoo haf' na mampos makat mana' fan adanche i sabion publiku siha gi hegsu' I Deni'.

Ilegña, "Ni unu ume'ekuñgog sa' todu mañgekuentus gi mismu tiempu. Taya' kampu eksisiun umekuñgog sa' kada unu ha sotta hablan tai sustansia kulan tropan gayinola".

"Parehu sustansian fino'mu yan konfirensia simienteyu 'nai ni unu humuñgog i man-sañgan siha sa' todu man-matai", sinañgane as Pindeha.

"Yangin guaha mohon tumuñgu' i seriosu na asuntu siha ti anaku' i ridun ma-espihan yaben kareta sa' gaige ha' gi sagaña", ilegña si Magoo.

"Guiya este i finu' i kuentos na chamu mafa' un' tutuñgu i ti un' tuñgu'", ilegña si Pindeha.

"Lau buena finu' Pindeha na ni unu ume-ekuñgog sa' kulan konfirensian halom simienteyu 'nai todus pattisipante man-silensiu gi naftan niha. A`Saina!

■■■

Hafa na kanaha' todu man-mañge' na totchen natibu mana' prebidu na tiempu? Magahet na hasan esta fanihi? Adahe sa' segun ginen un' tautau Alamagan miyon pot miyon na fanihi man-gaige gi halom butkan? Debi uma-ina este na areglu para benefisiun tautau tanu'.

Dispues mana' guaha lokue' tiempon ayuyu kase ennau i Oktubre na mes esta'i Desiembre. Hafa i dichu rason na nuebe mesis maprohibe? Kau pot para umana' fan dañkulu i ayuyu? Magahet na nuebe mesis ha' ha nesessita estake para u midianu minidoñgña?

Dimas de tafan a'apake' sin bala, mauleg ta deka' este siha na areglu.

WHERE

From Page 10

floodwaters rose steadily. He prayed feverishly for God to save him. When a boat sailed by to rescue him, he waved it away shouting that God was going to save him. A few minutes later a helicopter flew by pleading with the man to be saved by climbing the ladder it had dropped. Again the man waved the helicopter away shouting that God was going to save him. Finally the man drowned. He met God on his way to heaven and asked: "But God I prayed to you to save me." God looked at him and replied: "I sent you a boat and a helicopter and you waved them both away. Were you expecting Me personally to come and rescue you?" This story suggests that we are on the same roof top waiting for His rescue.

It seems we have become like an overly obese person fallen ill. Though he knows what he has to do to reduce and regain his health, he finds excuse after excuse for not to doing what he knows he has to do to regain his health. So, ladies and gentlemen, where do we go from here?

Okay, if nothing else, print a giant *smile* on our faces and have a great week.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Neither diminished nor impaired!

Are we going to allow our Constitution to fail in shame? When I was in school I was taught that the Constitution was the law of the land and was the supreme law that could not be violated. Apparently my teachers might have lied to me. Everyone who is following the retirement drama should just *read* our CNMI Constitution.

This is what I cut and pasted off the CNMI Law Review website from our Constitution (don't take my word for it, look it up): "Article III Section 20: Retirement System. a) Membership in an employee retirement system of the Commonwealth shall constitute a contractual relationship. Accrued benefits of this system shall be neither diminished nor impaired."

I don't know how you read this, but I read it as the government will pay my retirement *in full, on time,* until I die. How do you read it? This is what I see as how our government reads it: "Let's scare the daylights out of our *man'anko* retirees by saying there's no budget. Let's get them to fight over something that is not true like the government can reduce or take away their benefits. Let's get them to voluntarily reduce themselves into poverty, what no one under our Constitution can do, out of fear and misinformation!"

Do not let this happen! Everyone young and old, retired or working, must stand together behind the Constitution and chant at the next Fund meeting: "Neither diminished nor impaired! Neither diminished nor impaired! Neither diminished nor impaired!" I know it's not very catchy, it doesn't even rhyme, but it is the sole truth of the whole retirement dilemma (a dilemma, by the way, that is the sole responsibility of our government, not the retirees) If the retirement is under Finance, we can now hold one person, our governor, accountable to follow the Constitution and pay the retirees IN FULL, ON TIME, NO ARGUMENT, NO EXCUSES, PERIOD.

The excuse that there is no money is just an excuse. Our government simply has to make the hard choices to cut whatever they have to and make sure they fulfill their constitutional duty to pay the retirees what they have earned! Even if you've never planned on retiring in the CNMI, we the people must stick together and not let anyone in our government take away our constitutional rights. If we allow our government to take away any or all of the retirement benefits *earned* by retirees, then with a little more time and misinformation they will take away…

Michael Murphy
Capital Hill, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds around 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼78°	▲86 ° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°

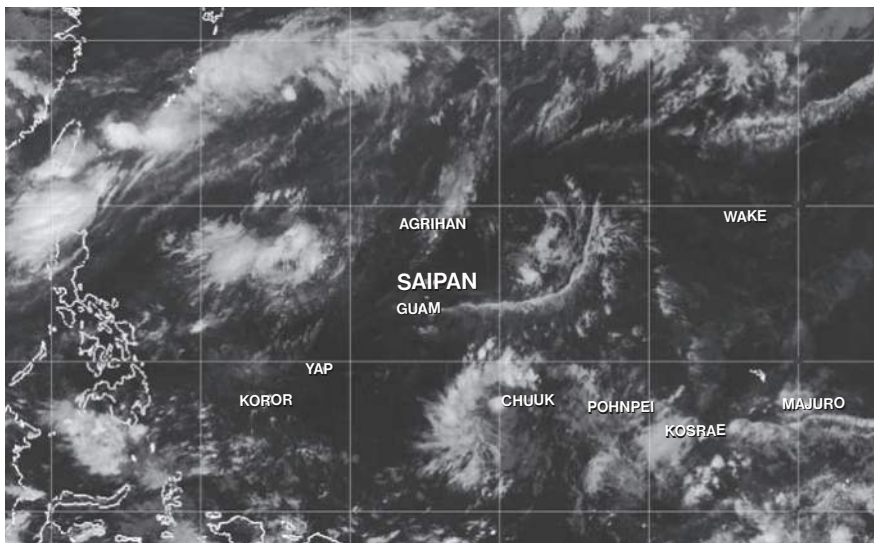
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲88	▼80
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼75
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲92	▼77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼78
Pohnpei	Showers	▲87	▼77
Kosrae	Showers	▲87	▼77
Majuro	Showers	▲87	▼81

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲61	▼54
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲87	▼62
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲89	▼84
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼72
London	Showers	▲60	▼52
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲74	▼58
Manila	Thundershowers	▲89	▼82
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲57	▼40
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼78
New York	Thundershowers	▲84	▼64
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼68
Paris	Rain	▲66	▼54
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲75	▼66
Rome	Thundershowers	▲78	▼66
Salem	Sunny	▲72	▼51
San Francisco	Sunny	▲76	▼56
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲82	▼66
Tokyo	Showers	▲77	▼62
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲94	▼72

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 2012
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A near-equatorial trough extends southeastward from near Mindanao through 5N130E to a weak circulation centered south of Koror at 1N137E then the trough continues eastward to another circulation centered southwest of Chuuk. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found near this circulation and trough axis northwest to southwest of Chuuk within 120 miles of a line from 3N147E to 9N151E. Low level convergence east of the circulation near Chuuk along with upper level divergence is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms west of Pohnpei within 90 miles of a line from 1N157E to 10N156E. A broad area of trade-wind convergence is causing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over Kosrae and Majuro south of a line from 8N160E to 9N170E to 8N180. Low level convergence with a surface trough located at 19N130E to 14N134E is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms near the surface trough between 14N and 21N from 130E to 140E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

2:19 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
8:49 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.8 Feet
1:45 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.4 Feet
8:13 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Tuesday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Wednesday	5:46 AM	6:48 PM
Thursday	5:47 AM	6:48 PM
Friday	5:47 AM	6:48 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today		11:58 AM
Tuesday	12:20 AM	12:47 PM
Wednesday	12:58 AM	1:35 PM
Thursday	1:36 AM	2:23 PM
Friday	2:15 AM	3:11 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
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  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 6, 2012

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)				**ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)**			
UA5062	2:40am	3:10am	1, 5	UA5062	3:40am	5:40am	1, 5
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)				**SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP)**			
UA5062	3:40am	4:15am	1, 5	UA5064	4:15am	4:50am	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				**GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN**			
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 5	UA5062	2:40am	4:15am	1, 5 via ROP
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA5071	7:10am	8:00am	Daily
UA5074	11:30pm	12:20pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA5073	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily	UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5078	6:50pm	7:40pm	Daily	UA5077	5:25pm	6:15pm	Daily
UA5072	9:55pm	10:45pm	Daily	UA5079	8:35pm	9:25pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				**NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN**			
DL287	6:05am	8:50am	Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:25pm	Daily	DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				**SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN**			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily	OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)				**GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN**			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				**SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN**			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				**MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN**			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	DL172/288	8:05am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	3, 6 via GUM	UA190/5077	10:55am	6:15pm	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:15pm	Daily via NRT	UA190/5077	10:55am	9:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	Daily via GUM	OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5076/193	3:10pm	10:25pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau	OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN	PR110/C05071	10:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 5, 7 via GUM
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 5, 7 via GUM	UA192/5071	9:45pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
UA5072/PR111	10:05pm	7:50am+1	3, 6 via GUM	UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
				UA184/5071	11:25pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM
				OZ704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				**HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN**			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50pm	1 via ICN	OZ724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7
UA5076/147	4:35pm	9:45pm	1, 5 via GUM	OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ604/723	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN	UA180/5076	10:35pm	8:00am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; CZ: China Southern; UA: United; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Saipan Air, MVA announce new Japan flights

MVA

Media roundtable discussions were held in late May 2012 in Japan to announce the launch of Saipan Air direct flights to Saipan beginning July 1. The discussions, and following launch receptions, were held on May 30, 2012, in Narita and May 31, 2012, in Osaka and were attended by Benigno Fitial, governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; MVA nanaging director Perry Tenorio; Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan; and Saipan Air Vice president and chief operating officer Adam Ferguson.

New daily direct flights beginning this summer from Tokyo and Osaka to Saipan were announced to over 150 travel trade partners and 60 media partners in Japan last week by Saipan Air and the Marianas Visitors Authority.

Launch receptions held on May 30 and May 31 were well received in anticipation of daily service from Tokyo's Narita Airport beginning July 1 and from Osaka's Kansai International Airport beginning Aug. 1. Similar receptions were held earlier in the month in China to raise awareness of direct flights from Beijing beginning July 2 and Shenyang on Aug. 2.

The receptions were attended by Gov. Benigno Fitial of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio; Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan, and Saipan Air vice president and chief operating officer Adam Ferguson.

Prior to the receptions, media roundtables were also held, attended by travel trade media including Travel Vision, Wing Travel, and Travel Journal, the three most influential travel trade weekly magazines covering industry-related topics.

The NMI delegation also met with presidents of major travel agencies HIS, JTB, and Kinki Nippon Tourist.

"We eagerly anticipate the launch of Saipan Air and the many additional visitors the new flights will bring to enjoy our beautiful islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota," said Tenorio. "With the implementation of the new environmental and promotional fee, we can also expect more promotions in the second half of this year, benefiting all our tourism partners who are eagerly looking to growth in our tourism industry."

During the receptions, Saipan Air presented the flight schedule and introduced the new in-flight video introducing tourism products of the Northern Mariana Islands. In addition, a fashion shoot-style show was used to unveil the Saipan Air flight attendant uniforms, worn by student volunteers from Hospitality Tourism College who aspire to become flight attendants themselves. Japanese musician Kiri also spoke of her frequent visits to the Northern Mariana Islands with her family and sang two songs, accompanied by ukulele.

Saipan Air is the Northern Mariana Islands' first locally owned air service. ***(MVA)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

Request for Proposal
CUC-RFP-12-017:
Financial And Compliance Audit For Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2012
ADDENDUM NO. 1
Date: May 17, 2012

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is issuing the following amendments and notifications to CUC-RFP-12-017:

➢ Extension of Proposal Submission Deadline:
One (1) original and five (5) copies of the proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-12-017, Financial and Compliance Audit for Fiscal Year Ending September 2012" to Mr. Michael Pai, Public Auditor, Office of the Public Auditor, 1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM CHST on **June 15, 2012**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

➢ Extension of Inquiry Submission Deadline:
All inquiries regarding the RFP must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM CHST on **June 1, 2012** to Mr. Michael Pai, Public Auditor, Office of the Public Auditor, 1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950; Mr. Charles Warren, CUC Chief Financial Officer, at email address charles_warren @cucgov.org; and Mr. Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer at email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org.

ALAN FLETCHER
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-12-017

FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2012

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director, is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms to perform a financial and compliance audit of the CUC for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012. The audit must be performed in compliance with the latest revision of the following guidelines:

1. OMB Circular A-133
2. Standard for Audits of Government Organization, Programs, Activities and Function, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States
3. Audits of States and Local Government Units, Industry Audit guide issued by the American Institute of Public Accountants (AICPA)

The date of contract award will be no later than June 30, 2012. Audit work shall commence thereafter and must be completed by January 31, 2013.

The RFP Package and Scope-of-Work may be obtained, upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit from the CUC Treasury Section by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $ 100.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-12-017, Financial and Compliance Audit for Fiscal Year Ending September 2012"to Mr. Michael Pai, Public Auditor, Office of the Public Auditor, 1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST), local time, on May 29, 2012**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All inquiries regarding the RFP must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 14, 2012 to Mr. Michael Pai, Public Auditor, Office of the Public Auditor, 1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950; Mr. Charles Warren, CUC Chief Financial Officer, at email address charles_warren@cucgov.org; and Mr. Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer at email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reasons and to waive any defects in any proposals if, in its sole opinion, to do so will be in the best interest of the CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

PROJECT BRABU

Public Service Announcement - Availability of Federal Funds

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation: Department of Public Health Substance Abuse Prevention Unit - Project Brabu is pleased to announce the availability of federal funds, through the Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG) for eligible communities in the CNMI to apply. This project is funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

Details of the grant and funds available are listed below.

I. Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG): FY2012 $400,000

The planning and implementation of this grant award will focus on four primary goals:

1.) Build Prevention Capacity and Infrastructure in the CNMI
2.) Prevent the Initiation of and Reduce Substance Abuse, Including Childhood and Underage Drinking
3.) Reduce Substance Abuse-related Problems
4.) Evaluate All Activities

The SPF SIG provides awarded communities with the opportunity to build and/or strengthen an effective and sustainable evidence-based prevention program that is responsive to the needs of the CNMI community. Community programs are required to implement evidence-based prevention programs focused on the following priorities that have been determined by Project Brabu and the State Epidemiological Workgroup (SEW):

1) Underage Drinking, and/or
2) Drinking and Driving

This grant award requires a **Strategic Prevention Framework** to help guide communities toward successful program management process following the five steps below:

1) Assessment: Accurately assess community problems, assets, and resources;
2) Capacity: Describe current capacity and/or plans to build capacity;
3) Planning: Develop a comprehensive Strategic Plan;
4) Implement: Identify the evidence-based program, policy, or practice to be implemented;
5) Evaluate: Process and impact evaluation through monitoring and documentation of program implementation.

The Project Brabu Advisory Council will make the final approval in consultation and collaboration with the SPF SIG Project Director on applications to be awarded based on a point system. The grant application guidelines detail the information required and the points under each of the sections.

All completed applications must be submitted to the CHCC: DPH Project Brabu's office on Saipan and the Prevention Coordinators on Tinian and Rota no later than 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 26, 2012.

Sub-Grant Application forms and guidelines may be obtained at the Project Brabu Office at the CHCC: DPH or the Substance Abuse Prevention offices on Rota and Tinian. Also, the application form and guidelines are available online at www.cgcspn.net. (under the Public Health Central link, Project Brabu 2012) For more information, please contact Ms. Tiara Evangelista at 236-8740 or ti.evangelista@gmail.com (Saipan); Mr. Keith Nabors, Prevention Coordinator (Tinian) at 433-6572 or tiniantyphoon@hotmail.com; or Ms. Avery Hocog, Prevention Coordinator (Rota) at 532-9461 or projectbraburota@yahoo.com.

Pre application workshops are scheduled as follows:

- June 13 (Saipan), TBD
- June 14 (Tinian), TBD
- June 15 (Rota), TBD

These workshops will provide on-site technical assistance in discussing the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) 5-step process, the sub grant components and requirements. The workshops are available to interested community members/agencies and are free of charge.

/s/ Mr. Claudio Norita
Chairman, Advisory Council

/s/ Mrs. Reyna Saures
SPF SIG Project Director

Hyatt Saipan offers online restaurant reservation

Hyatt Regency Saipan has launched an online restaurant reservation system allowing guests to conveniently book and confirm their bookings. Upon visiting the "dining and entertainment" section of the official hotel website, guests can choose which restaurant they wish to make reservations in.

With this newly launched innovation, Hyatt Regency Saipan's guests can enjoy the wide variety of restaurants and cuisines the hotel offers through a user-friendly reservations system.

Be the first to enjoy this innovation by visiting saipan.regency.hyatt.com and selecting the "dining & entertainment" section.

Hyatt Regency Saipan, a 317-room hotel, is located in Garapan, Saipan on 14 acres of lush, tropical gardens, with lagoons and the magnificent Micro Beach. Reservations for Hyatt Regency Saipan may be made by calling (670) 234-1234 or visiting saipan.regency.hyatt.com. ***(Hyatt)***

Church brings medical mission to As Lito

Some 76 individuals availed of free services provided by church members and volunteers of the Pentecostal Missionary Church of Christ 4th Watch as part of the group's village-to-village medical mission.

Church Pastor Claire Javillonar said the group held the successful event at the Green Consume Market parking lot in As Lito last May 27.

Javillonar recognized all volunteers and donors who helped make the event possible. They are the church members who performed the blood pressure and blood sugar screenings, facial and body massage, counseling, and also provided snacks; Rhea of Tropical Spa and Salon for providing haircut; and Erlinda Muleta of Marianas Eye Institute for conducting the eye checkup.

She also acknowledged the market owner, Mr. Li, for the use of his establishment's parking lot.

Javillonar said they are bringing the medical mission to the Sinapalo Children's Park on Rota on June 23, Saturday, from 3pm to 6pm.

She said their group will be offering the same services plus giveaways courtesy of sponsors from Guam.

"To all Rota residents, please come and avail of these blessings," said Javillonar.

For more information, contact 789-7566. ***(Clarissa V. David)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the Pentecostal Missionary Church of Christ 4th Watch host a medical mission at the Green Consume Market parking lot in As Lito last May 27.

Climate change and fishing in the Pacific

Fifteen countries and territories are meeting in Noumea this week to discuss how climate change will affect Pacific fisheries and how they can ensure fishing and aquaculture will continue contributing to their food security, livelihoods and community development.

The meeting was organized by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

Senior fisheries officers and national focal points for climate change in Pacific Island countries and territories, not-for-profit organisations and funding bodies are attending.

Mike Batty, director of SPC's Fisheries Division, said that countries need to take action now, as changes are already being felt and will gather pace in future.

"Tuna, reef and freshwater fisheries will all be affected as the oceans get warmer and more acidic," he said. "The changes will affect economies, jobs and food, and countries of the region have to plan to minimize potential damage and maximize new opportunities."

Cassandra De Young, FAO Fishing Planning Analyst, said climate change will compound existing pressures on fisheries and aquaculture.

"The question of how to meet existing demand for fish while ensuring the resilience of these systems and their dependent communities in the face of climate change poses a great challenge for fisheries and aquaculture management," she said.

Batty said that, according to research so far:

■ skipjack tuna are expected to move to the eastern Pacific and catches will increase;

■ bigeye tuna catches are likely to decline;

■ coral reefs will be severely affected and reef fishing will decline; and

■ there should be new opportunities in freshwater aquaculture.

Research results were published by SPC last November in the book Vulnerability of Tropical Pacific Fisheries and Aquaculture to Climate Change. SPC's Dr Johann Bell was the lead editor of this comprehensive study, which brought together assessments by 90 scientists and fisheries and aquaculture specialists from throughout the Asia and Pacific region.

The workshop looked in detail at the implications of the projected changes, and possible actions the countries of the Pacific could take.

"The best strategy is to get fisheries in the region in the best possible shape to cope with the stresses coming our way," Batty said.

He said countries should move now to reduce fishing to sustainable levels, and take positive action to protect coral reefs, mangroves, seagrasses and inter-tidal flats from threats such as sediment runoff from mining and forestry operations.

American Samoa, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, Nauru, New Caledonia, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Wallis and Futuna are all represented at the meeting.

AusAID and the governments of New Caledonia, Japan and Sweden provided support for the meeting.

Both SPC and FAO are members of the Global Partnership for Climate, Fisheries and Aquaculture. ***(SPC)***

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

RFQ NO.: RFQ12-DEQ-070
SUBMISSION: JULY 12, 2012 TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"PROVISION OF ENVIROMENTAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF ASTM PHASE II ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENT FOR SOIL OF POTENTIALLY CONTAMINATED BROWNFIELDS SITES ON SAIPAN FOR THE DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY"

The Scope of Work is available on or after **June 11, 2012** at the DEQ office located in the Gualo Rai Center Building, during regular working hours, Monday through Friday, except holidays.

A pre-proposal conference is scheduled for **June 28, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.** in the 2nd Floor DEQ Conference Room (Rm. 205).

This is a federally funded project; as such, local preference is not available because it's use is prohibited by federal law granting funding for this project.

/S/ FRANK M. RABAULIMAN
DIRECTOR, DEQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
TRASH COLLECTION SERVICES
PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-003-12

INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed bids for **Trash Collection Services** for a period of **two years** at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The scope of work entails providing trash collection services for the Airport as described in the scope of work. The **bid package** which includes the **scope of work, draft agreement, and insurance requirements** will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building beginning **Friday, May 25, 2012**. Bidders must submit all required documents listed in the scope of work. All responses to this IFB shall also take into account any and all costs that will be charged to the bidder awarded the contract for the project. Bidders shall also take into consideration all necessary badging requirements and fees for this project.

All bids shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *"Proposal for the Trash Collection Services at the Francisco C. Ada/ Saipan International Airport".* One original and three (3) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than **2:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, MONDAY, JUNE 25, 2012**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened and read.

The apparent lowest bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and insurance requirements. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive and responsible," their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

A **pre-bid conference** will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at **9:00 am, Tuesday, June 12, 2012** to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. All prospective bidders may attend. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director in writing at least 7 days prior to the pre-bid conference.

Each bidder must supply all information required by the bid proposal documents and specifications.

Contractor will be required to obtain insurance policies based on CPA's requirements. Copies of the insurance requirements may be obtained with the scope of work at the office of the Executive Director.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Invitation For Bids; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

CPA assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of offeror's preparation of the bid or supply under the contract. This IFB does not commit CPA to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for services.

All bids shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Bids received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

May 15, 2012
Date

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
PERIMETER FENCE/ROADSIDE/DITCH/
AND RESTRICTED AREA GRASS CUTTING
PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-003-12

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is soliciting sealed proposals for perimeter fence/roadside/ditch and restricted area grass cutting for a period of **two years** at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The scope of work entails providing continuous grass cutting services for the Airport as described in the scope of work. The **proposal package** which includes the **scope of work, evaluation factors, draft agreement, and insurance requirements** will be available at the Office of the Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building beginning **Monday, June 11, 2012**. Proposers must submit all required documents listed in the scope of work. All responses to this RFP shall also take into account any and all costs that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project. Proposers shall also take into consideration all necessary badging requirements and fees for this project.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *"Perimeter Fence/Roadside/Ditch and Restricted Area Grass Cutting at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport."* One original and three (3) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than **2:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, FRIDAY, JUNE 29, 2012**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

All proposals will be evaluated based on the following factors: (1) price, (2) company experience, (3) company experience, (4) sufficiency of workers, (5) available resources (funds and groundwork tools and equipment) and (6) valid CNMI Business License.

A **pre-proposal conference** will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at **10:00 am, Friday, June 22, 2012** to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. All prospective proposers may attend. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director in writing at least 7 days prior to the pre-proposal conference.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding proposal rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

CPA assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of offeror's preparation of the proposal or supply under the contract. This RFP does not commit to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Proposals received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

Date: May 30, 2012

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) and the CNMI Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) , in accordance with the requirements of 40 CFR 35.912, are announcing that a public hearing will be held regarding the state priority lists for both drinking water and wastewater projects eligible for funding under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's "State Revolving Fund" construction grant program. The proposed priority lists are available for public review any time during regular working hours at the CUC Engineering Office, located on the third floor of the Joeten Building in Dan Dan, Saipan. The lists were developed in accordance with the CNMI's priority ranking systems, on the basis of a number of factors including the affected population served by each project, the degree to which public health and the environment would be protected, and a number of other factors which may also be reviewed, upon request, at the CUC Engineering Office. Electronic copies of the lists and scoring criteria may also be obtained by sending an e-mail to brian.bearden@cucgov.org, or larry.manacop@cucgov.org.

The public hearing will be held at the DEQ Main Conference Room at the Gualo Rai Center, Middle Road, Gualo Rai, Saipan, at **noon (12:00 p.m.) on Monday, June 18, 2012**. For additional information, please contact the CUC Water and Wastewater Engineering staff at 235-7025 through -7030.

ALAN FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

Are you 18 years or older?

Have you been providing unpaid services to family members?

Been dependent on the income of another family member but no longer supported by that income and are you unemployed or underemployed and experiencing difficulty obtaining or upgrading employment?

If you answer "Yes" to all of these questions, contact WIA at (670) 664-1704/5, 7 & 8 (Saipan), (670) 433-1700 (Tinian), or (670) 532-1701 (Rota). You may be able to qualify for services as a Displaced Homemaker under WIA's Dislocated Worker Funding Program. All other program eligibility requirements applies.

Dislocated Worker Funding Program

- **U.S. Citizen or Registered Alien**
- **Meet Selective Service Requirements**
- **Have received the required Eligibility for services**
- **Must be 18 years or older**

Category A: General Dislocated Workers. To qualify, an individual must meet the following three criteria:

1. Has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of termination or layoff, form employment;
2. Is eligible for or has exhausted entitlement to unemployment compensation; OR has been employed or attached to the workforce for a duration sufficient to demonstrate to WIA, but is not eligible for unemployment compensation due to insufficient earnings or having performed services for an employer that were not covered under a state unemployment compensation law; and
3. Is unlikely to return to a previous industry or occupation.

Category B: Plant Closure. To qualify, an individual must meet one of the following three criteria:

1. Has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of termination or layoff, from employment as a result of any permanent closure of, or any substantial layoff at, plant, facility, or enterprise;
2. Is employed at a facility at which the employer has made a general announcement that such family close within 180 days; or
3. For purpose of eligibility to receive services other that training, intensive or supportive services under WIA, is employed at a facility at which the employer has made general announcement that such facility will close.

Category C: Self Employed or Unemployed. To qualify, an individual must meet the following criteria:

1. Was self employed (including employment as a farmer, a rancher, or a fisherman) but is unemployed as a result of general economic conditions in the community in which the individual resides or because of natural disasters.

CONTACT INFORMATION
Saipan: (670) 664-1704/1707/1708/1757 • **Fax:** (670) 664-1710
Tinian: (670) 433-1701 • **Rota:** (670) 532-1701
Email: gov.wia@pticom.com

This community outreach is funded by a grant made possible under the USDOL Employment and Training Administration.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Statewide Independent Living Council

"Yes I Can!"

P.O. BOX 501521, SAIPAN, MP 95950: TEL: (670) 322-6537/8 FAX: (670) 322-6536
TTY: (670) 322-6449; E-MAIL: nmidir@ovrgov.net

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the public is advised that the Statewide Independent Living Council will hold its FY 2012 Third General Membership Meeting on Thursday, June 14, 2012 at the Charley's Cabaret, PIC from 9:00am-2:00pm. Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

I. Roll Call
II. Adoption of Agenda
III. Review and adoption of March 08, 2012 Minutes
IV. Reports
- OVR Director
- SILC Chairman
- CIL Director

V. Old Business
- Recommendations of 2012 April Public Forums
- Review membership composition
- SILC Resource Plan

VI. New Business
- Trainings and other developments on independent living activities
- SILC Congress updates and State Plans
- Inter-Agency Presentation

VII. Consumer Forum
VIII. Announcements/Miscellaneous
IX. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodations such as large print or sign language interpreters, are asked to call 322-6537(voice) or 322-6449(TTY). Please contact Elvira Seman (Council Liaison) two days in advance for necessary arrangements.

/s/ Stephen Dutro
SILC Chairperson

Publication of this notice is paid for by federal funds made possible by the United States Department of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS).

Businesses support PDM cleanup

The non-profit PDM Promoters, Inc. held its regular cleanup in the island's tourist district last Saturday by picking up trash along Coral Tree Avenue to the Garapan Fire Station along Beach Road up to the Joeten Hafa Adai Center area.

Other businesses in Garapan showed support for the monthly cleanup by cleaning the frontage of their respective establishments.

"It's nice to see that some of them cooperate with us in taking care of their own trash," said Sonia Siwa of PDM Promoters, referring to the other businesses in the Garapan area.

Siwa said that Saturday's volunteers were composed of 13 staff of Kinpachi Restaurant and about 27 current members, graduates, and family members of the Saipan Awaodori Team.

The volunteers collected a total of 720 lbs of trash, half of which came from the trash bins that were filled to overflowing, noted Siwa.

She said they are always saddened by the trash problem along Paseo de Marianas, especially because some of the trash are actually household trash.

She thanked those who support the PDM Promoters monthly cleanup by providing supplies and refreshments. ***(Clarissa V. David)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Some 13 staff of Kinpachi Restaurant and about 27 current members, graduates, and family members of the Saipan Awaodori Team have their picture taken after collecting a total of 720 lbs of trash in the Garapan area.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

WIC

ANNOUNCEMENT

The CNMI WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) Program is pleased to announce that they are now accepting applications for Saipan, Tinian and Rota Vendors.

All interested vendors may pick up an application at the main office located on Upper Navy Hill Building # N-25, starting April 05, 2012 through June 28, 2012 (Monday to Thursday) or request for an application via email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org.

Applications must be submitted to the CNMI WIC Program office no later than 4:00 p.m., June 28, 2012.

Prospective applicants are encouraged to carefully read through the information provided to ensure minimum qualifications are met.

Inquiries and technical questions may be directed to the Vendor Management Coordinator, Fabian M. Ulloa at (670) 664-4066, by email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org or by facsimile at (670) 664-4069.

USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

/s/ Juan N. Babauta
Chief Executive Officer
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

/s/ Carmen C. Cabrera
Administrator
CNMI WIC Program

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

WIC

ANNOUNCEMENT

In an effort to strengthen our Program Integrity, the CNMI WIC Program would like to inform the General Public to report suspicious activities from WIC vendors and/or participants committing Fraud and Abuse by contacting the Quality Assurance Coordinator, Mr. Ponce Rasa at (670) 664-4068 and (670) 285-4068 or email at poncer@cnmiwic.org and the Vendor Management Coordinator, Mr. Fabian Ulloa at (670) 664-4066 and (670) 285-4073 or email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org.

Remember all tips or reports are kept confidential and callers may choose to remain anonymous.

USDA is an equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

/s/ Juan N. Babauta
Chief Executive Officer
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

/s/ Carmen C. Cabrera
Administrator
CNMI WIC Program

Business

Poll: Americans know how to save energy but resisting

WASHINGTON (AP)—When it comes to saving energy, people in the United States know that driving a fuel-efficient car accomplishes more than turning off the lights at home.

But that doesn't mean they'll do it.

A new poll shows that while most of those questioned understand effective ways to save energy, they have a hard time adopting them.

Six in 10 surveyed say driving a more fuel-efficient car would save a large amount of energy, but only 1 in 4 says that's easy to do, according to the poll by the AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research. People also are skeptical of carpooling or installing better home insulation, rating them as effective but impractical.

On the other end of spectrum, 8 in 10 say they easily can turn off the lights when they leave a room, and 6 in 10 have no problem turning up the thermostat in summer or down in winter, although fewer than half think those easy steps save large amounts of energy.

Even those who support conservation don't always practice it.

Cindy Shriner, a retired teacher from Lafayette, Ind., buys energy-efficient light bulbs and her 2009 Subaru Impreza gets nearly 30 miles per gallon on the highway.

Still, she keeps her house at about 73 degrees year-round, despite government recommendations to turn thermostats to 68 degrees in winter and 78 degrees in summer.

"I'm terrible," Shriner, 60, said in an interview. "In all honesty we have extreme weather in all seasons" in Indiana, she said, and her thermostat settings keep her comfortable.

Her parents recently qualified for a grant under the economic stimulus law that paid for a new furnace and insulation, Shriner said. She said such programs are important to improve energy conservation.

The public looks to large institutions for leadership in saving energy, believing that individuals alone can't make much of a difference. Nearly two-thirds look to the energy industry to show the way toward energy conservation, and nearly 6 in 10 say the government should play a leading role. Democrats, college graduates and people under 50 are the most likely to hold industry is responsible for increasing energy savings.

Canadian tech town feels BlackBerry's decline

WATERLOO, Ontario (AP)—President Barack Obama couldn't bear to part with his BlackBerry. Oprah Winfrey declared it one of her "favorite things." It could be so addictive that it was nicknamed "the CrackBerry."

Then came a new generation of competing smartphones, and suddenly the BlackBerry, that game-changing breakthrough in personal connectedness, looks ancient.

There is even talk that the fate of Research In Motion, the company that fathered the BlackBerry in 1999, is no longer certain as its flagship property rapidly loses market share to flashier phones like Apple's iPhone and Google's Android-driven models.

With more than $2 billion in cash, bankruptcy for RIM seems highly unlikely in the near term, but these are troubling times for Waterloo, Ontario, the town of 100,000 that was transformed by the BlackBerry into Canada's Silicon Valley. RIM is Canada's most valuable technology company, an international icon so prestigious that founder Mike Lazaridis and its other driving force, Jim Balsillie, are on an official government list of national heroes, alongside the likes of Alexander Graham Bell.

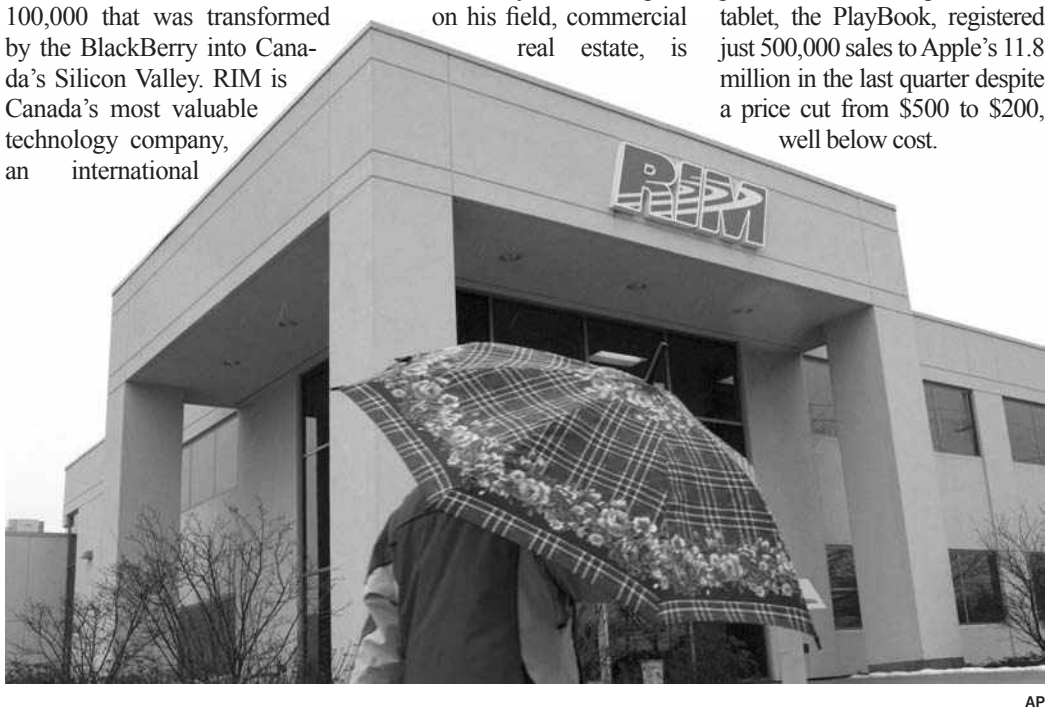
RIM's U.S. share of the smartphone market belly-flopped from 44 percent in 2009 to 10 percent in 2011 according to market researcher NPD Group. The company still has 78 million active subscribers across the globe, but last month RIM issued a warning that it will lose money for the second consecutive quarter, will lay off workers this year, and has hired a team of bankers to help it weigh its options. Last July it slashed 2,000 jobs.

Of RIM's 16,500 remaining employees, 7,500 live in Waterloo, a university town 90 minutes' drive from Toronto, where everyone seems to know someone who works for RIM.

John Lind says RIM's impact on his field, commercial real estate, is enormous. "We talk about RIM in hushed tones in this region because no one wants to be negative about it, no one wants to be seen as not on their side," he said. "But people are saying, 'What would this region look like without RIM?'"

The decline of the BlackBerry has come shockingly fast. Just five years ago, when the first iPhone came out, few thought it could threaten the BlackBerry. Now Chief Executive Thorsten Heins says his employees "are getting asked all the time, 'What's going on with you guys? What happened? I mean RIM is the star of Canada and what happened to you guys? And how bad is it going to go?'"

RIM's software is still focused on email, and is less user-friendly and agile than iPhone or Android. Its attempt at touch screens was a flop, and it lacks the apps that power other smartphones. Its tablet, the PlayBook, registered just 500,000 sales to Apple's 11.8 million in the last quarter despite a price cut from $500 to $200, well below cost.



AP

In this Monday, Jan. 23, 2012 photo, a man with an umbrella walks past part of the Research In Motion campus in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada.

Nation

Public-employee pensions face rollback in California

SAN DIEGO (AP)—For years, companies have been chipping away at workers' pensions. Now, two California cities may help pave the way for governments to follow suit.

Voters in San Diego and San Jose, the nation's eighth- and 10th-largest cities, overwhelmingly approved ballot measures last week to roll back municipal retirement benefits—and not just for future hires but for current employees.

From coast to coast, the pensions of current public employees have long been generally considered untouchable. But now, some politicians are saying those obligations are trumped by the need to provide for the public's health and safety.

The two California cases could put that argument to the test in a legal battle that could resonate in cash-strapped state capitols and city halls across the country. Lawsuits have already been filed in both cities.

"Other states are going to have to pay attention," said Amy Monahan, a law professor at University of Minnesota.

The court battles are playing out as lawmakers across the U.S. grapple with ballooning pension obligations that increasingly threaten schools, police, health clinics and other basic services.

State and local governments may have $3 trillion in unfunded pension liabilities, and seven states and six large cities will be unable to cover their obligations beyond 2020, Northwestern University finance professor Joshua Rauh estimated last year.

In San Jose, current employees face salary cuts of up to 16 percent to fund the city's pension plan. If they choose, they can instead accept a lower benefit and see the current retirement age of 55 raised to 57 for police officers and firefighters, and to 62 for other employees.

The voter-approved measure in San Diego imposes a six-year freeze on the pay levels used to determine pension benefits for current employees, a move that is expected to save nearly $1 billion over 30 years. Public employee unions have sued to block the measure, saying City Hall failed to negotiate the ballot's wording as required by state law.

Legal experts expect the cities to argue that their obligations to provide basic services such as police protection and garbage removal override promises made to employees.

In San Diego, the city's payments to its retirement fund soared from $43 million in 1999 to $231.2 million this year, equal to 20 percent of the operating budget. At the same time, the 1.3 million residents saw roads deteriorate and libraries cut hours. For a while, fire stations had to share engines and trucks. The city has cut its workforce 14 percent since 2005.

San Jose's pension payments jumped from $73 million in 2001 to $245 million this year, or 27 percent of its operating budget. Four libraries and a police station that were built over the past decade have never even opened because the city cannot afford to operate them. The city of 960,000 cut its workforce 27 percent over the past 10 years.

"It's a problem that threatens our ability to remain a city and provide services to our people," said Mayor Chuck Reed. "It's huge dollar amounts and has a huge impact on services."

Unions representing police officers and firefighters in San Jose claimed in lawsuits filed last week in state court that the measure violates their vested rights.

"What they've done in San Jose is patently unlawful under existing court precedent," said Steve Kreisberg, national collective bargaining director for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.

ACROSS THE NATION

Record rainfall in central Gulf coast

PENSACOLA, Fla. (AP)—Record amounts of rain dropped on the central Gulf coast Saturday, causing what could be millions of dollars in flood damage in the Pensacola area alone with more rain on the way. The National Weather Service said 13.11 inches fell on Pensacola over 24 hours by Saturday, coming close to the city's all-time record of 15.29 inches set in 1934. The rain hit a lull by Saturday night, but NWS meteorologist Jason Beaman said they expected more showers and thunderstorms overnight and more intense rain again on Sunday and into Monday. The Florida Panhandle's Escambia County declared a state of emergency. Sheriff David Morgan told the Pensacola News Journal that he estimated the damage around the county at around $20 million.

Ex-Indian Army officer kills family, self in Calif.

SELMA, Calif. (AP)—A former Indian Army officer wanted in a 1996 killing in the disputed Kashmir region killed his wife and two of their children in their California home Saturday before apparently taking his own life, authorities said. Avtar Singh called Selma police at around 6:15 a.m. and told them that he had just killed four people, Fresno County Sheriff's Deputy Chris Curtice said. When a sheriff's SWAT team entered the home they found the bodies of Singh, a woman believed to be his wife and two children, ages 3 and 15, Curtice said. All four appeared to have died from gunshot wounds.

Hasidic Jew fired from NYPD over beard length

NEW YORK (AP)—An Orthodox Jew who was weeks away from becoming a New York City police officer said he has been kicked out of the police academy for refusing to trim his beard. Former recruit Fishel Litzman of Monsey was fired Friday after multiple confrontations with the department over the length of his whiskers, he told the Daily News. Litzman is Hasidic and believes that cutting his beard is forbidden by God. NYPD rules usually require officers to be clean-shaven. The department makes exceptions for beards kept for religious purposes, but even then only allows 1 millimeter worth of growth. NYPD spokesman Paul Browne said the department's rules are reasonable and Litzman was aware of them when he signed up.

Police: Pastor Creflo Dollar choked, hit daughter

ATLANTA (AP)—The 15-year-old daughter of megachurch pastor Creflo Dollar told authorities her father choked and punched her, and hit her with his shoe during an argument over whether she could go to a party, according to a police report. Dollar's 19-year-old daughter corroborated most of her sister's story, but Dollar disputed it, telling a sheriff's deputy he was trying to restrain her when she became disrespectful. When she began to hit back, he wrestled her to the floor and spanked her, according to the police report. Dollar is one of the most prominent African-American preachers based around Atlanta.

Asia

US, PH leaders hail growing alliance

AP

President Barack Obama meets with Philippines President Benigno Aquino, Friday, June 8, 2012, in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington.

By MATTHEW PENNINGTON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)—The U.S. and Philippines said Friday they are expanding intelligence sharing and cooperation on maritime security, as President Barack Obama reiterated Washington's desire to be viewed as a Pacific power.

Obama met at the White House with Philippine President Benigno Aquino III against the backdrop of a two-month standoff between Philippine and Chinese vessels at a disputed shoal in the South China Sea.

China's assertive behavior in those waters has served to bolster Manila's 60-year alliance with Washington, which thrived during the Cold War but ebbed after nationalist political forces prompted the closure of American military bases in 1992.

Obama thanked Aquino for what he called "excellent cooperation" on economic, defense and other issues. Aquino earlier declared the allies are at a "new juncture in our relations."

The security and military cooperation with the Philippines "is a reminder to everybody that the United States considers itself, and is, a Pacific power," Obama said.

Aquino, the son of democracy heroes, has emerged as a willing partner of the U.S. as it looks to build a stronger presence in Southeast Asia, a region neglected during a decade of war in Afghanistan and Iraq. The two sides are discussing how to enhance the U.S. military presence in the Philippines, beyond the decade-long counterterrorism training mission in the country's south that involves hundreds of American troops.

The U.S. and the Philippines are bound by a mutual defense treaty. The Philippines has been seeking a clear public statement that the U.S. would come to its defense should it face attack.

The U.S. has restricted itself to saying it would honor its obligations under the treaty. No further statement was forthcoming Friday, and neither leader mentioned China.

At a lunch hosted earlier for Aquino at the State Department, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton welcomed an easing of the tensions at the disputed Scarborough Shoal in the past week, as China and the Philippines withdrew some vessels from a lagoon at the center of the standoff. She reiterated U.S. interest in peaceful resolution of disputes in the South China Sea.

"The United States has been consistent in that we oppose the use of force or coercion by any claimant to advance its claims, and we will continue to monitor the situation closely," Clinton said.

Obama made a sidelong reference to the South China Sea dispute.

"We have a strong set of international norms and rules governing maritime disputes in the region," Obama said.

China plans manned space launch this month

BEIJING (AP)—China will launch three astronauts this month to dock with an orbiting experimental module, and the crew might include its first female space traveler, a government news agency said Saturday.

A rocket carrying the Shenzhou 9 spacecraft was moved to a launch pad in China's desert northwest on Saturday for the mid-June flight, the Xinhua News Agency said, citing an space program spokesman.

The three-member crew will dock with and live in the Tiangong 1 orbital module launched last year, Xinhua said. The government has not said how long the mission will last.

Xinhua cited Niu Hongguang, deputy commander in chief of the manned space program, as saying the crew "might include female astronauts."

The government said in 2010 that two female air force pilots had joined the astronaut program but has disclosed no other details.

China's space program has made steady progress since a 2003 launch that made it only the third nation to put a man in space on its own. Two more manned missions have followed, one including a space walk.

Myanmar: Calm restored after rioting that killed 7

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Security forces in western Myanmar have restored order after rioters burned hundreds of homes in sectarian violence that killed at least seven people, state-controlled media reported Saturday.

The rioting reflected long-standing tensions in Rakhine state between Buddhist residents and Muslims, many of whom are considered to be illegal settlers from neighboring Bangladesh. Although the root of the problem is localized—centering on resentment of the alleged cross-border outsiders—there is fear that the trouble could spread elsewhere because the split also runs along religious lines.

The state-run newspaper Myanma Ahlin said security forces had to open fire to restrain the rioters, while state television announced that army troops had been deployed to help police in Maungdaw and Buthidaung townships, where the mobs rampaged. A dusk-to-dawn curfew was applied and public gatherings of more than five people banned.

According to the television report, seven people were killed and 17 wounded in Friday's violence. It said 494 houses, 19 shops and a guest house were burned down.

World

Syrian rebels now control many towns, villages

By DAVID ENDERS
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

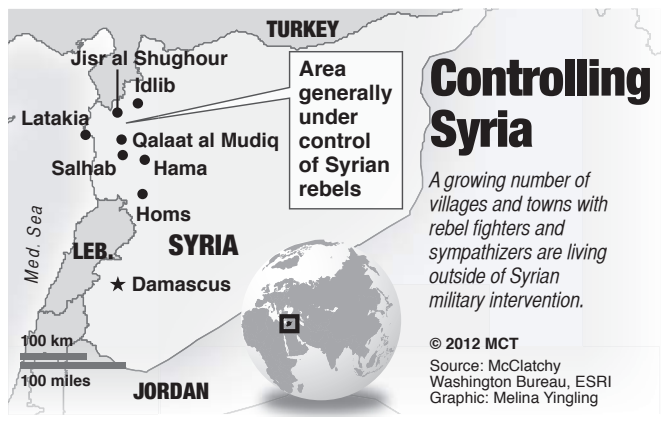
QALAAT AL-MUDIQ, Syria—It's been two months since anyone has seen a police officer in this central Syrian city.

Though the Syrian military occupies an ancient citadel overlooking Qalaat al-Mudiq, it's reached a truce with the Free Syrian Army rebel groups that control the city below. Residents and rebel leaders say the last time military forces attempted to enter the city was in March, but a pair of successful ambushes pushed them back to their base. The military doesn't enter, shoot at or shell the town anymore, even though a rebel sniper recently killed a soldier who'd stood exposed too long in the citadel.

The Free Syrian Army, the moniker taken by most of the loosely organized militias that have taken up arms against the government of Syrian President Bashar Assad, kicked the police out of the city in September. The army tried to install a pair of police officers in the local station later, but the officers were promptly abducted by the rebels when the army withdrew. They were later released to their families after their families paid a ransom.

Amid a torrent of news coverage focused on massacres and sanctions, a major change in the Syrian political landscape has gone largely unremarked: All across northern and central Syria, in an area known as the al-Ghab Plain, a growing number of villages and towns effectively are outside government control.

In an area that stretches from the mountains around Jisr al-Shughour in the north to the town of Salhab in the south, and east to the highway that links the cities of Hama and Idlib, rebels administer justice and provide local services, including the distribution of cooking gas and food. A U.N. cease-fire that was supposed to begin in April has never really taken effect, but in these safe havens, rebel fighters and sympathizers live largely outside Syrian military intervention. Syrian troops who patrol nearby do so in armored vehicles because of the threat of roadside bombs and ambushes.



The safe space has allowed rebels to stockpile and manufacture weapons and hold prisoners. It also provides a base from which the rebels move into other parts of the country that until now have been relatively quiet.

That dynamic was on display as recently as Tuesday, when fighting broke out in al-Haffa, a town near the city of Latakia on the Mediterranean Coast. Latakia remains a government stronghold, but rebels have pushed out of their areas to challenge the government in villages around the city. Twenty-two government soldiers were reported killed in the al-Haffa fighting, and rebels who fought there before withdrawing to the al-Ghab area said they had freed prisoners, abducted police officers and bulldozed the local police station and secret police offices before withdrawing under an intense attack from helicopter gunships.

"The army only controls the area directly under their tanks," said Mohanned al-Masri, a member of Ahrar al-Sham, one of the groups based in the al-Ghab Plain and the primary supplier of rebel fighters at al-Haffa. "Here, the regime has already fallen."

Ahrar al-Sham also is manufacturing rockets in the area. "We are perfecting the accuracy now," said Khalid al-Amin, the leader of Ahrar al-Sham in Qalaat al-Mudiq.

Amin said that Ahrar al-Sham and the other rebel groups are making plans soon to rid the city of the army's presence. The cease-fire with the army would end in mid-June, he said, when the wheat crop had been harvested.

"There will be a big war," he said.

Fears about UK border queues ahead of Olympics

LONDON (AP)—The first taste of British life for most travelers landing at Heathrow Airport these days is the queue.

That long line snaking back and forth to passport control can be maddening, and even the British—masters at manners when it comes to waiting in line—are beginning to lose their patience.

Take Joan Collins, the actress who describes herself on her Twitter feed as "Much Travelled. Exhausted," was shocked when she passed through Heathrow last month. She had a message for Home Secretary, Theresa May.

"Arrived LHR after great trip on (at)British Airways but 1000s waiting at passport control—listen up Ms. May—need more officers!"

All the bad news about queues last month sparked concerns about the fate of tourist hordes arriving for the Olympics. With the games less than 50 days away, the bad press about lines unsettled British authorities, who have been falling all over themselves to make sure that everything is ready and moving smoothly for the sporting extravaganza.

More people than ever used Heathrow last year—nearly 70 million passengers -straining an arrivals process that relies on traditional, staffed immigration desks, according to Ben Vogel, the editor of IHS Jane's Airport Review. Those lines have been blamed on the government, the airline schedules—and even the wind.

Although by many accounts the lines have eased, the relentless bad publicity has been painful for Heathrow—even though it is the border agency, not the airport operator BAA, which is responsible for slimming the queue. People who are waiting complain that desks aren't always manned—even as the numbers grow.

"Is it simply that the onset of the Olympics has made people take notice of a problem that has long existed?" Vogel said. "In a word—yes."

The UK Border Force has promised to put on more staff during peak days leading to the Olympics, which take place from July 27-Aug. 12. They promise that they've planned—taking account of how many people are coming and when—and that all desks will be staffed during peak periods from mid-July to early August.

"We're ready," said Marc Owen, the director of the border force for Heathrow. "We've been planning for a couple of years for a safe and secure games, doing that in partnership with BAA and the airlines. We've got the staff in place. We should be in a very strong position to have all the desks full."

Still, it doesn't mean things are great and it is problematic when high profile people take to Twitter to vent. Al Roker of NBC's Today Show found himself waiting Tuesday—and decided to share.

Health & Fitness

US wants 9/11 health program to include 50 types of cancers

By DAVID B. CARUSO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK (AP)—People who were stricken with cancer after being exposed to the toxic ash that exploded over Manhattan when the World Trade Center collapsed would qualify for free treatment of the disease and potentially hefty compensation payments under a rule proposed Friday by federal health officials.

After months of study, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health said in an administrative filing that it favored a major expansion of an existing $4.3 billion 9/11 health program to include people with 50 types of cancer, covering 14 broad categories of the disease.

People with any of the cancers on the list could qualify for treatments and payments as long as they and their doctors make a plausible case that the disease was connected to the caustic dust.

The decision followed years of emotional lobbying by construction workers, firefighters, police officers, office cleaners, and many other people who fell ill in the decade after the terror attack, and were sure it had something to do with the many days they spent toiling in the gray soot.

"It's amazing," said Ernie Vallebuona, a former New York City police detective who retired after being diagnosed with lymphoma in 2004. "It's nice to have the federal government recognize that your cancer was caused by ground zero. It's something we've always known. I'm just ecstatic that we are finally being recognized. You almost felt like you were being brushed aside."

NIOSH, which oversees the 9/11 health program, acted after an advisory committee made up of doctors, union officials and community advocates recommended that cancer be added.

Officials probe E. coli outbreak in 6 states

ATLANTA (AP)—A mysterious and scattered outbreak of the E. coli bacteria is linked to 14 illnesses, including a child's death, health officials say.

No form of contaminated food or other cause has been identified in the illnesses, which occurred in April and May, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Three people were hospitalized. One—a child in the New Orleans area—died last week.

The reported illnesses were spread across six states. Georgia had five cases, Louisiana four, Alabama two, and Tennessee, Florida and California each had one.

E. coli is a large family of bacteria and most strains are harmless. The most deadly strain is considered E. coli O157:H7, which became well-known in the early 1990s through a deadly outbreak associated with hamburger meat.

Six similar strains are also considered dangerous and one of them is E. coli O145, the strain identified in this new outbreak. Health officials haven't been tracking O145 intensively for very long; it was only in 2009 that the CDC began recommending labs test for it.

"These are not newly emerging bacteria. Our awareness of them has been improving," said Stacey Bosch, who's leading the investigation into the outbreak for the CDC.

People tend to get sick two to eight days after ingesting the bacteria. It's most dangerous to very young and very old people and those with weakened immune systems. For those people, it's more likely that the toxins made by the bacteria will poison the blood and cause kidney failure, experts say.

The first U.S. foodborne outbreak linked to O145 occurred in 2010, when more than two dozen people in at least five states were sickened by bacteria transmitted through romaine lettuce. Health officials have also seen instances where it was spread through water and deer meat.

CDC: More teens smoke pot than cigarettes

ATLANTA (AP)—A government survey shows more teens are now smoking pot than cigarettes.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported Thursday that 23 percent of high school students said they recently smoked marijuana, while 18 percent said they had puffed cigarettes. The survey asked teens about a variety of risky behaviors.

For decades, the number of teens who smoke has been on the decline. Marijuana use has fluctuated, and recently rose. At times, pot and cigarette smoking were about the same level, but last year marked the first time marijuana use was clearly greater.

An earlier survey by the University of Michigan also found that pot smoking was higher. A Michigan expert said teens today apparently see marijuana as less dangerous than cigarettes.

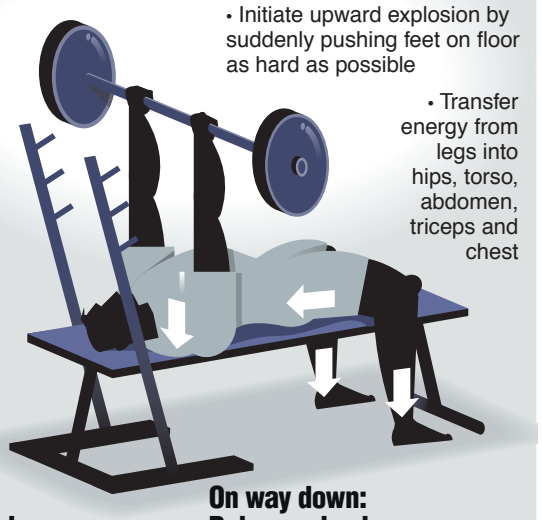
Personal Trainer

How to do a bench press

One of the most powerful lifts done with free weights, or barbells, is the bench press, which requires both safety awareness and good technique.

Arch your back
- Dig shoulders into bench
- Move buttocks toward head by pushing up and back with legs
- Let buttocks barely touch bench

Drive your feet
- Pause with weight resting on chest
- Initiate upward explosion by suddenly pushing feet on floor as hard as possible
- Transfer energy from legs into hips, torso, abdomen, triceps and chest



On way up: Think speed

After initial push, use weights' momentum to do a lightning-fast press

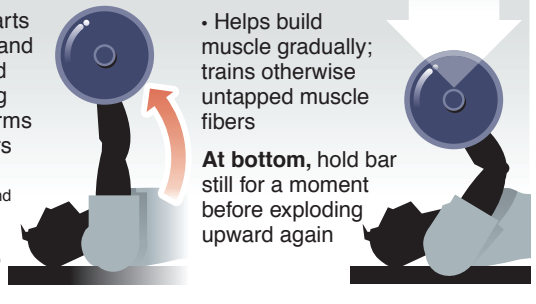
Make weights accelerate through entire lift

Best path starts low on chest and curves up and back, finishing with locked arms over shoulders

On way down: Release slowly

Lower bar to chest slowly, under constant control
- Lets you control weight at all times
- Increases work done
- Helps build muscle gradually; trains otherwise untapped muscle fibers

At bottom, hold bar still for a moment before exploding upward again



Source: Muscle and Fitness magazine

© 2012 MCT
Graphic: Paul Trap

Life & Style

Lindsay Lohan OK after collision

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Lindsay Lohan emerged uninjured from a collision with a dump truck on a coastal highway near Los Angeles on Friday, returning to the set of her new movie hours after the accident left her sports car crumpled.

Santa Monica Police Sgt. Richard Lewis said there was no sign Lohan was impaired at the time of the accident and said his agency would continue to investigate who was at fault in the wreck. The truck's driver was uninjured and that driver also showed no signs of driving under the influence, Lewis said.

Police are seeking witnesses to the crash, writing in a news release that detectives were trying to determine who was driving. Lohan was traveling with a male assistant to the set of her new film; the assistant was also uninjured.

"We're treating this as a regular accident," Lewis said. The agency is accepting anonymous tips about the wreck, and offering a $1,000 reward if it leads to an arrest.

The accident at around 11:40 a.m. Friday on the Pacific Coast Highway occurred while Lohan was on her way to film scenes for the Lifetime movie "Liz and Dick," which chronicles the love affair between Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton. Lohan's publicist Steve Honig said the actress was released about two hours after the accident and was returned to the set to continue filming.

"Fortunately, no one was seriously injured in the accident," he wrote in an email.

Honig declined further comment, including on who was driving, citing the pending investigation.

"First and foremost, we're concerned about the well-being of Lindsay and anyone else who may have been involved in the accident," Lifetime spokesman Les Eisner said, adding, "Lindsay has been doing fantastic work on the set of `Liz and Dick.'"

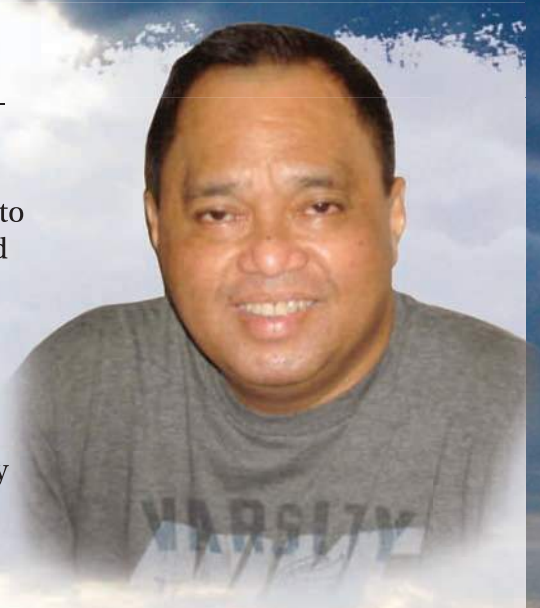
Production on the film started earlier this week and was expected to conclude around the end of June.

AP

Lindsay Lohan's crashed Porsche lies on a flatbed tow truck, after it collided with a truck on Pacific Coast Highway in Santa Monica, Calif., Friday, June 8, 2012.

MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE TO THE FAMILY OF THE LATE

JOHN PANGELINAN VILLAGOMEZ



On behalf of the Board of Directors, Management and Staff of the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA), we would like to express our sincere sadness and sympathies to the family of the late John P. Villagomez on his untimely passing. John was a highly valuable and respected member of the CPA family and the effects of his loss are already being felt at CPA by his fellow employees and management.

Throughout his time at CPA, his dedication and selfless nature was always something that many others could only hope to attain and all who knew him regarded him with great respect and admiration. John was indeed a remarkable man and we here at CPA are all better people for having known him.

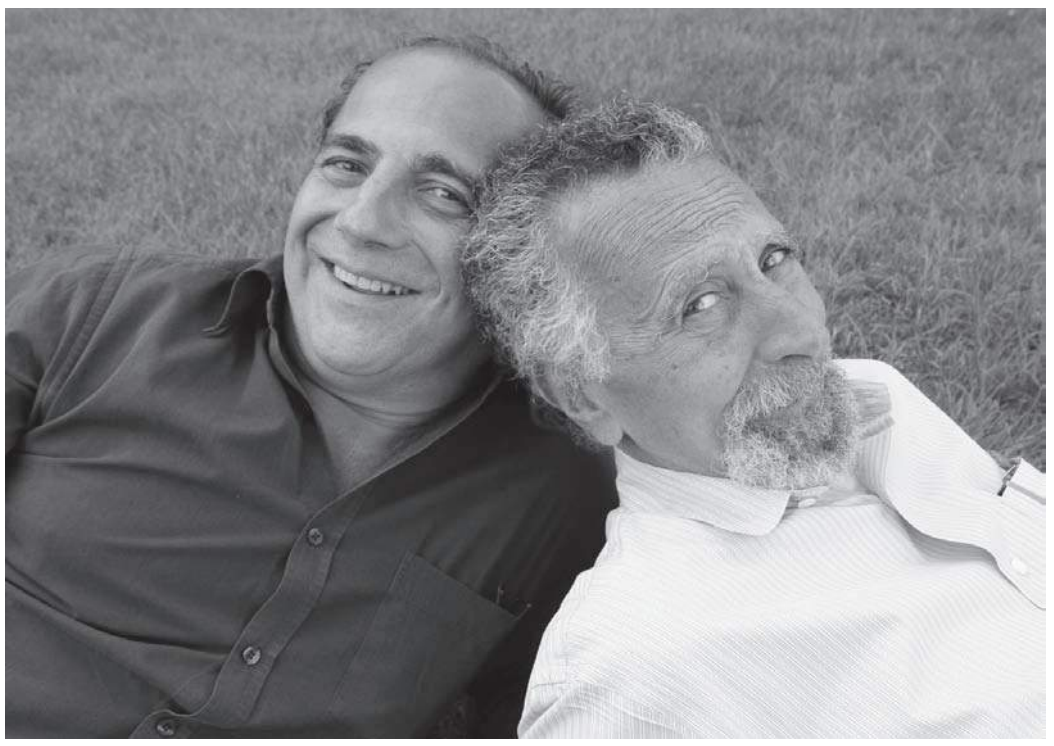
Please accept our profound and heartfelt condolence at this most difficult of times. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

With sincere sympathy,

EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

NPR 'Car Talk' duo is retiring



AP

This June 19, 2008 file photo shows brothers Ray Magliozzi, left and his brother Tom, hosts of National Public Radio's "Car Talk" show, in Cambridge, Mass.

NEW YORK (AP)—The comic mechanics on NPR's "Car Talk" are pulling in to the garage.

Brothers Tom and Ray Magliozzi said Friday they will stop making new episodes of their joke-filled auto advice show at the end of September, 25 years after "Car Talk" began in Boston. Repurposed versions of old shows will stay on National Public Radio indefinitely, however.

The show airs every Saturday morning and is NPR's most popular program.

"We've managed to avoid getting thrown off NPR for 25 years, giving tens of thousands of wrong answers and had a hell of a time every week talking to callers," Ray Magliozzi said. "The stuff in our archives still makes us laugh. So we figured, why keep slaving over a hot microphone?"

The duo will continue writing their "Dear Tom and Ray" column twice a week, NPR said.

With their byplay and Boston accents, "Car Talk" was as much about laughs as motor advice. On last week's show, a caller confessed that she had broken the clutches of some exboyfriends' cars and was now worrying that she was damaging her own.

"That might be the reason none of your relationships lasted," she was told.

The two men proved that public radio didn't have to be stuffy, said Doug Berman, executive producer of the show. "Car Talk" began as a local call-in show on Boston's BUR radio in 1977. It's now on 660 stations across the country, with some 3.3 million listeners a week.

"The guys are culturally right up there with Mark Twain and the Marx Brothers," Berman said. "They will stand the test of time. People will still be enjoying them years from now. They're that good."

The staff has stored and logged some 12,500 phone calls since the show began, rating them in order of their entertainment value, Berman said. They will take the best and use them for the repurposed shows. Berman said he figured there was about eight years' worth of strong material without the show having to repeat itself again.

"I'm the producer of all their shows and I can't remember most of" the calls, he said.

"Car Talk" has tested out the repurposed show and is convinced they will work. There's a strong wish among NPR stations to keep the show going even if there isn't fresh material, he said.

Berman said he knew the retirement was a possibility; Tom is 74. That didn't stop Ray, 63, from mocking him. "My brother has always been work-averse," he said. "Now, apparently, even the one hour a week is killing him."

In a goodbye message posted on their website and titled "Time to Get Even Lazier," Tom wrote, "We're hoping to be like `I Love Lucy' and air 10 times a day on `NPR at Nite' in 2075."

Miss Universe pageant fights back on rigging claim

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—The Miss Universe Organization says a former contestant should be made to pay for her "defamatory" claims that this year's Miss USA pageant was a sham.

The New York-based organization made a filing with a dispute resolution company over the former Miss Pennsylvania USA's assertion that another contestant spotted the list of finalists on a planning sheet hours before the event was even held Sunday, its lawyer Scott Balber said Friday.

A statement from the organization said it was seeking compensation for her "ongoing defamatory statements," but Balber wouldn't say how much money the Miss Universe Organization was seeking.

The pageant also released a statement from Miss Florida USA—the contestant Sheena Monnin claims saw the list—in which she disputes Miss Pennsylvania's version of the events that prompted her to step down.

Monnin gave up her crown Monday, claiming in a Facebook post that the pageant had been rigged, with the top five finishers selected before the show was broadcast Sunday night from Las Vegas. Pageant organizers immediately denied Monnin's allegation and claimed she had actually stepped down because she disagreed with the pageant's decision to allow transgender contestants.

Earlier Friday, Monnin told NBC's "Today" show that she was standing by her claim that Miss Florida USA confided in her that she'd seen a list of finalists Sunday morning.

"I know what I heard, and I know what I in turn witnessed come true based on what the contestant said she saw," Monnin said.

Monnin claimed Miss Florida USA Karina Brez named the top five contestants in the same order they were called during the broadcast.

"That's just too coincidental to not be true," she said.

But a statement released Friday by Brez disputes Monnin's account, saying Brez was only making a joke about a list of contestants that she saw.

"The list I saw didn't even have the eventual winner on it," the statement read.

This year's Miss USA winner was Olivia Culpo, of Rhode Island.

Pageant officials maintain the judging was done fairly and under the watchful eye of auditor Ernst & Young.

"(The) tabulation of the judges' votes which determined the final five contestants did not occur until after the evening gown competition had been completed," Ernst & Young said in a statement released Friday evening.

A group of preliminary judges selects 15 top contestants before the telecast along with a 16th picked by fan vote. Those contestants are then whittled down by the telecast judges, who this year included celebrity chef Cat Cora and Arsenio Hall.

Lauryn Hill responds to NJ tax evasion charges

NEWARK, N.J. (AP)—Reclusive singer Lauryn Hill said in an Internet posting Friday that she hasn't paid taxes since she withdrew from society to guarantee the safety and well-being of herself and her family.

The eight-time Grammy Award winner and South Orange, N.J., resident was charged this week with willfully failing to file income tax returns with the Internal Revenue Service. Federal prosecutors said she didn't pay taxes on more than $1.5 million earned in 2005, 2006 and 2007 from recording and film royalties.

Hill responded to the federal charges in a lengthy post on her Tumblr page Friday. She described how she has rejected pop culture's "climate of hostility, false entitlement, manipulation, racial prejudice, sexism and ageism."

"Over-commercialization and its resulting restrictions and limitations can be very damaging and distorting to the inherent nature of the individual," Hill wrote. "I did not deliberately abandon my fans, nor did I deliberately abandon any responsibilities, but I did however put my safety, health and freedom and the freedom, safety and health of my family first over all other material concerns! I also embraced my right to resist a system intentionally opposing my right to whole and integral survival."

She said in her online post that she explained herself to authorities when she was questioned by authorities about her failure to pay taxes.

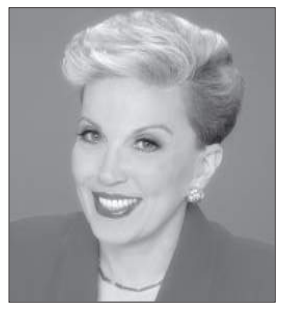
"My intention has always been to get this situation rectified. When I was working consistently without being affected by the interferences mentioned above, I filed and paid my taxes," she wrote. "This only stopped when it was necessary to withdraw from society, in order to guarantee the safety and well-being of myself and my family."

A spokeswoman for the U.S. Attorney's Office for New Jersey, which filed the tax charges, said in response to Hill's posting Friday that they could not speak to the specifics of the investigation.

The 37-year-old Hill got her start with the Haitian-American hip-hop band the Fugees. She began her solo career in 1998 with the critically acclaimed album "The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill."

Man who is reluctant to move resists combining households

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I'm a middle-aged, divorced man in a one-year relationship with a wonderful woman. "Alexis" is bright, pretty, fun, responsible, affectionate, and yes, I do love her. She also insists that I move in with her. She wants us to start our life together under one roof —hers.

I'm having a hard time with all of this—selling my home, selling most of my belongings, changing my work-from-home routine and giving up the independence of living alone with my mutts. Alexis still has a minor child at home, which is an issue because I feel I have "been there, done that."

I don't think the timing is right, and I have told her as much several times. But she's soon back in "sell your house and move in" mode. Alexis is beginning to think I will never make the move. (She may be right.) I'll probably lose her if I don't give in. Any suggestions?

STAYING PUT IN OKLAHOMA

DEAR STAYING PUT: Before selling your home and most of your possessions, consider putting the things you want to keep in storage and renting out your home for a year. That way, if things don't work with Alexis—and they might not—you won't have given up everything. Another plus: By then your house may have risen in value and you'll get a better price for it. But do nothing in haste or because you feel you are being pressured.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I recently moved to a new area and are becoming friendly with the people in the neighborhood. My husband works as an education director for the local synagogue and, because he is in this field, we have agreed to keep our new home a kosher home and follow the strict rules of kashrut. We will allow no food in the house that has not been prepared in a kosher kitchen using food approved by the Orthodox Union.

My question is, if people decide to stop to introduce themselves and bring something homemade as a welcoming gesture, how do I politely and tactfully decline their gift if they do not keep a kosher kitchen?

NEW ON THE BLOCK IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

DEAR NEW ON THE BLOCK: Smile at your food-bearing neighbor and say, "Thank you. We keep a kosher home and want to know if you do, too." If the answer is no, explain that while it looks delicious and you appreciate the gesture, you can't accept the food because of your strict observance of your religion.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: On Jan. 23 you printed a column "Recognizing the Signs of a Stroke Can Help Save a Life." Well, in our family it sure did. After my husband and I read it, we had our three children (19, 16 and 14) also read it. Then we hung it on the wall in the kitchen.

Our 16-year-old son, Charlie, was taking his 87-year-old grandfather out shopping not long afterward, and not a mile from the house our son noticed rapid changes in his grandfather. Grandpa said, "I'll be fine, just take me home." Of course our son, for the first time, did not listen to him. He pulled the car over and proceeded to call 911. A couple of weeks of physical and occupational therapy, and they say Grandpa will be good to come home. Thank you so much for putting that in your column.

CATHERINE IN GARDINER, N.Y.

DEAR CATHERINE: You're welcome. I'm pleased to know—as I'm sure the writer of the letter I printed will be -- that it turned out to be so helpful to you. Your son is a hero, not only because he saved his grandfather, but also because he calmly took control of the situation in an emergency.

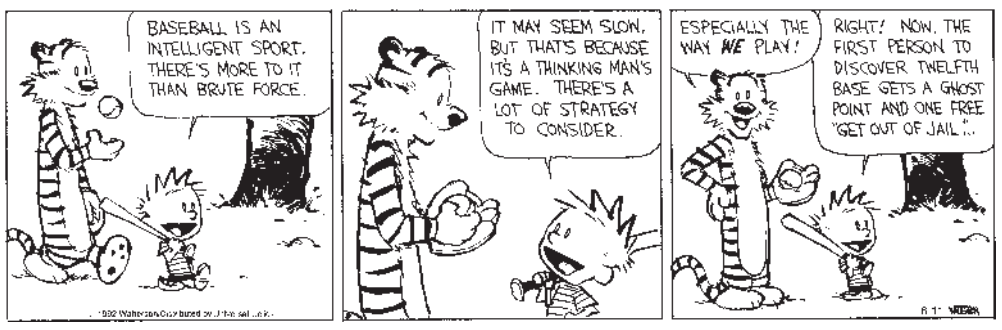
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


BASEBALL IS AN INTELLIGENT SPORT. THERE'S MORE TO IT THAN BRUTE FORCE.
IT MAY SEEM SLOW, BUT THAT'S BECAUSE IT'S A THINKING MAN'S GAME. THERE'S A LOT OF STRATEGY TO CONSIDER.
ESPECIALLY THE WAY WE PLAY!
RIGHT! NOW, THE FIRST PERSON TO DISCOVER TWELFTH BASE GETS A GHOST POINT AND ONE FREE 'GET OUT OF JAIL'...

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

ANNOYED YET?
YES, JON. FOR OVER THIRTY-THREE YEARS NOW, JON
JIM DAVIS 6-11
Distributed by Universal Uclick www.facebook.com/garfield
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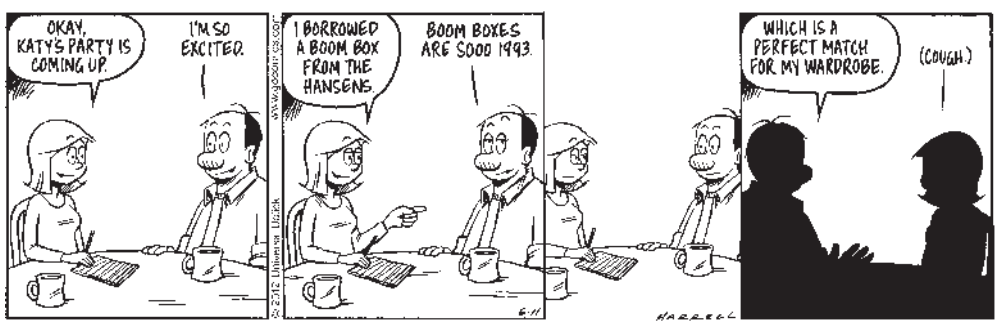
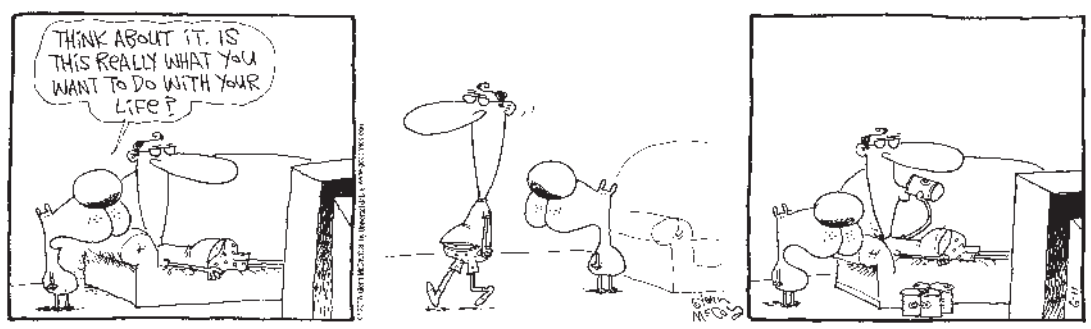
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


OKAY, KATY'S PARTY IS COMING UP.
I'M SO EXCITED.
I BORROWED A BOOM BOX FROM THE HANSENS.
BOOM BOXES ARE SOOO 1993.
WHICH IS A PERFECT MATCH FOR MY WARDROBE.
(COUGH.)

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

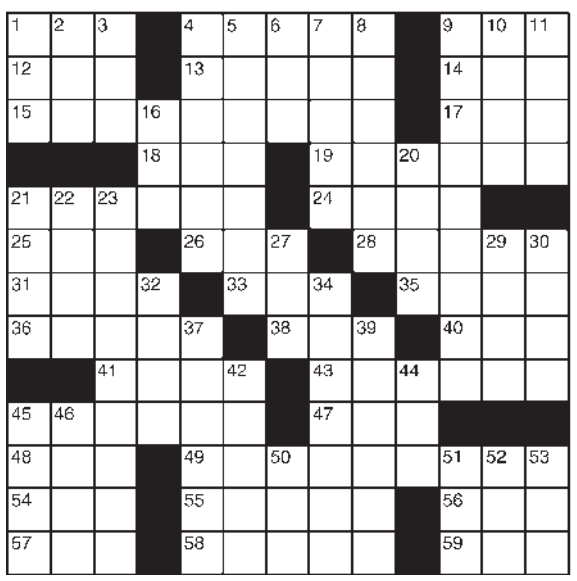
ACROSS
1 Knock
4 Wound covers
9 TV network with an eye logo
12 Lamb's mother
13 Chicken (Sp.)
14 Former acorn
15 Bright hue
17 Attempt
18 Fuss
19 Kind of inspection
21 Appliance at a movie snack counter
24 Farmer's home, in song
25 Prince — Khan
26 15-Across, e.g.
28 Body powders
31 Latvia's capital
33 Aachen article
35 Surrealist Joan
36 "Throw — From the Train"
38 "To be or — ..."
40 "— Town"
41 Pulpit of yore
43 Third-place medal
45 Flowering
47 Violinist's need
48 Floral garland
49 Uprising
54 Chinese chairman
55 Katy Perry's "I Kissed —"
56 Pair
57 Morning light
58 — slipper (orchid type)
59 Stitch

DOWN
1 Gun the engine
2 Shock and —
3 Apiece
4 Miss Muffet's frightener
5 Used crayons
6 Boxer Muhammad
7 Vital fluid
8 14-line poem
9 Formal ball
10 Homer's son
11 Terrier type
16 Atlas entry
20 Bang the door
21 Pizzeria cheese, for short
22 Hodge-podge
23 Play that became "My Fair Lady"
27 Lair
29 Actress Penelope
30 Angry
32 Bullets et al.
34 Theft
37 Away from the mouth
39 Cave-dwelling giants
42 Last Greek letter
44 Hooter
45 Charitable donations
46 Suitor
50 Auction action
51 "— Impossible"
52 Have bills
53 Present

Solution time: 24 mins.

L	S	D	■	B	E	E	P	■	E	K	E	D
O	W	E	■	A	L	A	R	■	N	I	S	I
V	I	M	■	R	I	S	E	■	T	E	S	T
E	M	I	L	I	O	E	S	T	E	V	E	Z
■	■	■	O	U	T	■	S	I	R	■	■	■
P	S	A	L	M	■	P	E	N	■	C	A	B
H	O	W	L	■	W	E	U	■	C	U	R	U
D	Y	E	■	L	I	Z	■	F	A	R	E	D
■	■	■	F	E	Z	■	A	S	P	■	■	■
G	L	O	R	I	A	E	S	T	E	F	A	N
R	I	D	E	■	R	I	C	O	■	E	G	O
U	S	E	S	■	D	R	O	P	■	E	R	E
B	A	S	H	■	S	F	T	S	■	S	A	I

Saturday's answer 6-11



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Shia LaBeouf, 26; Joshua Jackson, 34; Peter Dinklage, 43; Hugh Laurie, 53.

Happy Birthday: Move toward positive, doable projects or ventures. Wasting time on something that is too risky or excessive will lead you astray. Don't feel pressured by others. It's up to you to make choices that suit your needs, not what everyone else wants. Don't let emotions lead in work-related matters. Your numbers are 8, 12, 17, 20, 29, 31, 43.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Keep a tight lid on your thoughts, feelings and motives. You don't want to give anyone the upper hand when so much is at stake. Listen carefully and react thoughtfully, but protect what you have. Don't fold under pressure. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Share your creative ideas and look for solutions that will benefit both you and the people you are dealing with. An opportunity to learn something that will help you get ahead will develop. Physical activity will help ease stress. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Make sure you have time to handle what's expected of you before taking on more responsibility. Disillusionment is apparent, especially in emotional matters or with regard to helping or asking for assistance. Listen carefully. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): You will pick up valuable information by sharing your ideas. Take an unusual approach in what you do or spend time with someone from a different background and you will expand your awareness, resulting in greater diversification. ✪✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Promote what you do well, and push for changes that will help you excel even further. Ask for favors and offer your services. Don't let money matters depress you when finding new ways to increase your income is what's required. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): One step at a time. If you move forward too quickly, you will end up having to go back and make corrections. Listen carefully to what's being asked of you before agreeing to get involved. A change someone makes will affect your finances. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Share your knowledge without embellishment or someone will question your authenticity. Accept the inevitable rather than initiating change. Focus on being better, knowing more and expanding your personal horizons through discipline. Love is in the stars. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Enjoy the company of people who share your creative interests. Spending more time with youngsters will inspire you to update your look and lifestyle. A moderate step toward the changes you want to incorporate is all that's required. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Keep life simple and refrain from getting involved in emotional situations by being open and honest about the way you feel and what your intentions are. Change will help you expand your interests and advance professionally. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Rely on experience and connections to help you make the right choice now. Don't let someone you work with or for create an emotional dilemma that will throw you off or contribute to a mistake. Focus and balance are required. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Confusion will set in if you let the past interfere with the present. Let go of what hasn't worked or what's dragging you down, and concentrate on the people and things that motivate you to be your best. Love is highlighted. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Keep your feelings to yourself, and avoid anyone trying to goad you into an uncompromising position. Set your sights on creative venues that will motivate and inspire you to start a new project or join a group that interests you. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are an imaginative dreamer. You are creative, persistent, excessive and original.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

	3					2		
		1		8		6		
9		5	6		3	7		8
		9	4		7	3		
	8						5	
		4	2		8	1		
5		2	8		6	9		4
		6		3		2		
	4						1	

Difficulty Level ★

6/11

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

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Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer

2	7	3	5	6	1	8	9	4
8	9	6	7	4	3	1	5	2
1	4	5	9	2	8	3	7	6
4	5	1	6	3	9	7	2	8
3	2	7	8	5	4	9	6	1
9	6	8	2	1	7	5	4	3
7	1	9	4	8	2	6	3	5
5	8	2	3	9	6	4	1	7
6	3	4	1	7	5	2	8	9

Difficulty level ★★★★

6/4

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

DICK CLARK (1929-2012) **Solution: 8 letters**

A	D	D	C	S	I	D	M	L	A	C	S	S	I	M
G	N	A	I	T	R	I	E	M	K	R	A	L	C	T
E	A	N	U	C	A	C	L	Y	E	K	C	O	J	S
L	T	C	O	T	K	I	L	P	E	E	M	A	G	O
E	S	I	L	U	H	N	O	I	D	A	R	W	E	H
S	D	N	D	V	N	O	W	K	U	B	A	O	R	U
S	N	G	E	I	L	C	R	C	A	A	H	H	A	M
E	A	R	S	B	M	I	E	O	N	R	C	S	U	O
K	B	O	T	R	L	U	Ⓝ	R	E	R	D	Y	Q	R
O	E	T	A	A	I	Ⓔ	B	O	W	Y	I	R	S	E
J	L	C	R	N	Ⓔ	C	S	L	S	D	M	A	S	C
U	I	A	S	Ⓣ	S	I	H	L	A	N	A	C	E	O
L	N	F	F	A	T	S	G	A	W	I	R	U	M	R
I	K	P	R	O	D	U	C	E	R	C	Y	S	I	D
A	S	E	I	V	O	M	U	S	A	D	P	E	T	S

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Ageless, Album, Announcer, Author, Bandstand, Barry, Bloopers, Calm, Charm, Cindy, Clark, Dancing, Dick, Disc, Duane, Factor, Game, Host, Humor, Iconic, Jockey, Jokes, Julia, Kari, Links, Mellow, Miss, Movies, Music, News, Oldest, Producer, Pyramid, Radio, Records, Richard, Rock, Roll, Show, Stars, Syracuse, Teen, Times Square, USA, Vibrant, Wagstaff.

Last Saturday's Answer: Sludge

To order THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34 or 35 sets, $6.95 each (US funds) by check to Universal Uclick, Puzzle Collections, P.O. Box 6000, Lincoln, NE 68548-6000. Credit card orders only: 1-800-642-6479. Order online at www.uclick.com/puzzlecollections. Please allow 4 to 6 weeks for delivery.

CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$27
• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY IN A CASINO INDUSTRY

WE ARE IN NEED OF 50 CASINO DEALERS

Tinian Dynasty® Hotel & Casino

INVITES ALL TO JOIN

Casino Dealer Training Program*

(Offer of employment awaits successful candidates)

Minimum qualification requirements
- At least 18 years of age
- Authorized to work in the US

If you are interested, please visit, call or email

Human Resources Department
2nd floor Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino
One Broadway Ave. San Jose Village
P.O. Box 468 Tinian, MP 96952
T (670) 328-2233 ext 2621 / 2617
F (670) 328-1106
tdhc.dhr@pticom.com

Deadline is June 12, 2012

- *Casino Dealer Training Program will commence on June 18, 2012.
- *Certain conditions apply when participating in this program.

WORLD RESORT

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPEN DATE: June 4, 212 **POSITION:** Reservation Clerk
CLOSE DATE: June 13, 2012 **SALARY:** Minimum Wage

Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum two (2) years in hotel reservations preferred. Must have excellent people skills, willingness to provide service, friendly attitude and ready smile.

OPEN DATE: June 4, 2012 **POSITION:** Cook (Korean Cuisine)
CLOSE DATE: June 13, 2012 **SALARY:** Minimum Wage

Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum two (2) years in culinary experience preferred. Applicants with formal training/education in culinary arts strongly preferred.

OPEN DATE: June 4, 2012 **POSITION:** Cook (Western Cuisine)
CLOSE DATE: June 13, 2012 **ALARY:** Minimum Wage

Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum two (2) years in culinary experience preferred. Applicants with formal training/education in culinary arts strongly preferred.

OPEN DATE: June 4, 2012 **POSITION:** Steward
CLOSE DATE: June 13, 2012 **SALARY:** Minimum Wage

Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum two (2) years experience in food service preferred. This position may require employee to receive certain food handler related health examinations and clearances before hire and continue to receive such examinations and clearances as a condition to their continued employment.

OPEN DATE: June 04, 2012 **POSITION:** Lifeguard
CLOSE DATE: June 13, 2012 **SALARY:** Minimum Wage

Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent. Obtaining a lifeguard certification is preferred. Must have a friendly and outgoing personality.

OPEN DATE: June 04, 2012 **POSITION:** Server (Part-time)
CLOSE DATE: June 13, 2012 **SALARY:** Minimum Wage

Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum two (2) year experience preferred. Must have a friendly and outgoing personality.

For more information, please contact Ms. Miriam K. Seman, Human Resources Team Manager at (670) 234-5900 ext. 274/266.

Employment application forms are available at the Saipan World Resort, Security Office, located next to the Wave Jungle Water Park. Applicants must submit the completed form and all the necessary requirements to the Security Office. Incomplete application will not be received by the Security Office.

WHATZIT™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

XQQME

WHATZIT? © 2012 www.whatzit.com

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

WHATZIT Solution: Excuse me

EMPLOYMENT

(1) Building Maintenance. Part-time only. Minimum salary. Three Way International Inc. Tel. 788-7270

WANTED TO BUY

Need cash fast??? We want to buy your OnePass miles or Skymiles!!! Call 888-2205.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

2 Bedroom Apartment for Rent. For $200.00 / month. Koblerville, please call 288-0728.

WANTED

2 WAITER/WAITRESS

- Must be a U.S. Citizen (fluent in English)
- Must be 21 yrs. old & above
- High school graduate

Walk-in applicants only, with picture.
No phone calls.
Deadline: June 22, 2012

Country House Restaurant

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $600/mo. Call 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $550. Call 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

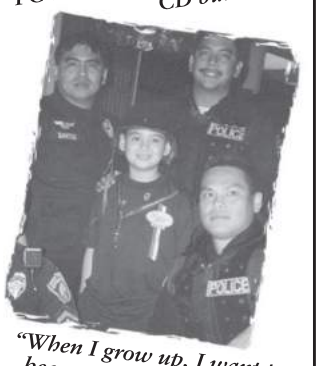
Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated bldg., 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Back-up generator. Free Wi-Fi, EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nightime security. $450/mo. Call 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Anaks Condo, 2BRs, washer/dryer, ceiling fans, a/c, storage, r/o water, swimming pool, tennis court, gated, 24/7 security. Ideal location, close to central Garapan. Call Ron Barrineau 322-4758 or 483-4785.

share the power of a wish℠

"My wish is to have my own PC with a DVD player and CD burner!"



"When I grow up, I want to become a police officer!"

25 years of making wishes come true!

For eligible children with life-threatening illnesses

MAKE-A-WISH®

Visit us at 865 S. Marine Dr.,
Orlean Pacific Plaza Ste. 104
Tamuning, Guam 96913
Tel: (671) 649-WISH
Fax: (671) 646-6293
Email: mawfguam@ite.net
www.wish.org
Office Hours: 8:30am to 5:30pm
M-F daily

Saipan Tribune

CLICK IT OR TICKET DAY & NIGHT

LAWN CARE SERVICE (BUSH CUTTING)
CALL: 287-0319

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
2 - PHYSICAL THERAPIST
Please drop resume to the main office located in Finasisu, former LISS.
Valley of Glory Investment (USA) Corp.
PMB 62 Box 10003, Saipan MP 96950
Tel: 288-9583
Contact Person: **Mr. Kang**

A promising learning & activity center is looking for:
Preschool Teacher
with a degree in childhood/elementary education, with knowledge in computer, come up with lesson plans, 1 year working experience, Able to speak English fluently, active, have initiative.
Send entries to:
d.brightminds@yahoo.com.sg
call or SMS 285-5540

LOOKING TO BUY USED CARS
• **Toyota Corolla and Yaris** *2010 and up.*
We are also interested in **7 seater Jeep** *2007 and up.*
*All vehicles must be in good condition.
Call 287-8484

JOON CORPORATION is looking for:
DANCERS
Qualifications: High school graduate. A minimum of five years of work-related skill, knowledge or experience. Willing to work late hours.
Duties: Perform in musical productions. Present folk, ethnic, tap, jazz or other popular kinds of dance. May perform as part of a group or solo. Perform other related duties that may be assigned.
Applications may be submitted to Joon Corp. dba King's Club at Garapan, Saipan or email cross_road_44@hotmail.com, Tel. No. 233-0353 or 483-5382
All applications must be accompanied by a current resume.

Help Wanted
Housekeeper/Caregiver
➤ Must have a U.S. Passport or Greencard.
➤ Willing to relocate/work in Hawaii.
Please send resume and contact information to: caregiver.670@gmail.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Position: General Manager
Work Location: Saipan Sanko Lounge (1st Floor of DFS Galleria, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950)
Working Hours: 40 hrs/week + overtime
Wage: $66,622.00/year [PW Tracking#: P-100-12087-233370]
Job Duties: Plan, direct, & coordinate operations of the company. Formulates policies, manage daily operations. Oversee activity directly related to making services. Review financial statements and other performance data to measure productivity & goal achievement. Manage staffs, preparing work schedules, and assigning specific duties as well as other related duties.
Requirements: High School diploma; Minimum 3 months of trainings on travel agency administrations, and minimum 2 years of experience as a general manager of a travel agent; Ability to speak, read & write both English and Japanese fluently in order to accommodate tourist customers & any business associates.
Equal Opportunity Employer: Saipan Sanko Transportation, Inc. does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, genetic, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services, and complies with the provisions of the human rights act applicable to CNMI.

Saipan Sanko Transportation, Inc.
P.O. BOX 502328, Saipan, MP 96950
TEL: (670) 234-3363 attn: Diego San Nicolas

ST. JUDE RENAL CARE FACILITY, INC.

Job Vacancy Announcement

DIETITIAN (01)

This position will be under the direct supervision of the Medical Director and must be able to do the following:

- Provides comprehensive nutritional evaluation and counseling services for dialysis patients and staff.
- Provides goal oriented intervention directed toward management of ESRD disease by education of the patient in renal diet and fluid intake management.
- Maintains a close working relationship with the multi-disciplinary ESRD team of dialysis in planning for patients care and attends departmental staff meetings.
- Attends facility in-services, meetings and provides educational programs requested.
- Documents all tasks thoroughly in patient's medical records to maintain dietary records and statistics.
- Establishes yearly goals with Medical Director/Unit manager in relations to specialty program/service.
- Assists in the development, implementation and evaluation of dietary policies and procedures.
- Initiates and/or participates in patient education and treatment programs, such as developing dietary educational materials.
- Participates in professional and other community organizations and activities serving clientele.
- Performs all other duties as assigned.

Education/Experience:
- Holds a baccalaureate or advance degree in food and nutrition or dietetics.
- Has at least one year experience in clinic nutrition.
- Good interpersonal/communication skills.
- Must comply with the law and regulations of the state dietary or nutritional licensing body.

Please submit resume or pick-up application at Saipan Health Clinic, at Chalan Kiya or send email to Connie Aldan or Judy Arriola at hpcshc@pticom.com.

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position: **Technical Maintenance Coordinator**
Opening Date: May 28, 2012
Closing Date: June 13, 2012

Starting Salary: **PL 26/01 to PL 26/12 ($18,584.42 to $31,757.68 per annum)**

Job Location: **NMHC Central Office, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950**

Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, together with NMHC's employment application form, during regular working hours at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan during regular working hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

Applicants are requested to submit their original application and supporting documents to the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, June 13, 2012 **OR MAILED AND POSTMARKED** no later than June 13, 2012, to the Acting Corporate Director, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Ms. Jocelyn S. Kaipat, Office Manager at (670) 234-9447/7689 or by email to jskaipat@nmhcgov.net NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Acting Corporate Director

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax. (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CONRAD S. HOFSCHNEIDER, Plaintiff, vs. ANTHONY U. HOFSCHNEIDER, Defendant.	**Civil Action No. 08-0190 NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order Granting Writ of Execution issued by the Court in this matter on March 16, 2012, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein below, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in the following property: Lot No. 057 T 05: located on Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 10,000 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Survey Official Cadastral Plat No. 057 T 01 dated May 4, 1990, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 90-1770 dated May 7, 1990, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on **June 29, 2012**, at the hour of 10:00 am, at the **Tinian court house**, P.O. Box 80 Tinian, MP 96952 San Jose, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public and will be held in reserve.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
a) Withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
b) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
c) To reject any and all bids.

2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758 CK, Saipan, MP 9695, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749; E-mail: rttlaw@pticom.com.

3. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and the loss of any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in the property.

4. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and Mr. Conrad S. Hofschneider reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 14th day of May, 2012.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

BRUCE L. MAILMAN, #F0153
MAILMAN & KARA, LLC
PMB 238 PPP, Box 10,000
Saipan, MP 96950-8900
Telephone: 233-0081
Facsimile: 233-0090

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF
WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL SAIPAN, INC.
aka WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL, INC.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL SAIPAN, INC. aka WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL, INC. Plaintiff, -/- LUCIA C. SABLAN Defendant.	CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0291 **NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court on May 17, 2012 in this matter, I will sell, at public auction to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein below, all of the right, title, and interest of defendant LUCIA C. SABLAN in and to the following real property located at Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands:

LOT 1749-NEWB-18, (PART OF LOT 1749-NEWB PART OF ORIGINAL LOT 1749, TD 305), AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED ON DRAWING/CADASTRAL PLAT NO. 2012/94, THE ORIGINAL OF WHICH WAS RECORDED OCTOBER 22, 1993 AS DOCUMENT NO. 93-3795 AT THE OFFICE OF THE COMMONWEALTH RECORDER, SAIPAN.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on July 2, 2012, at the hour of 4:00 p.m., at the law offices of Mailman & Kara, LLC, 2nd Floor, Tan Marikita Bldg., Beach Road at Cpl. Derence Jack Street, Garapan, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Inspection of Property. It is the responsibility of each bidder to inspect the property prior to the sale. Failure to inspect the property or any portion thereof will not constitute ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer.

Warranties and Covenants. All property listed for sale in this Notice will be sold in its current condition, and at its current location. The sale will be held without any warranties or covenants whatsoever, whether express or implied, including but not limited to warranties of title, merchantability, and/or fitness for any purpose whatsoever, all of which warranties and covenants are hereby expressly disclaimed. Neither the undersigned nor the plaintiff may give any warranty or covenant, express or implied, with respect to the property listed for sale in this Notice. Neither the undersigned nor the plaintiff shall be liable for the quality of the property listed for sale in this Notice, or for any fault or defect in the description thereof. Buyers shall not be entitled to rescission, damages, or any other remedy on account thereof.

Conduct of Sale.

a. Reserve. The auction sale may be held with reserve. The reserve price on any property offered for sale may or may not be disclosed to bidders, in the sole discretion of the undersigned.

b. Rights and duties of auctioneer. Consistent with the laws, customs, and usages of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales, the undersigned shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale: (1) to withdraw the property listed for sale in this Notice before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted; (2) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and (3) to reject, on behalf of the seller, any or all bids, for any reason.

c. Bids. Bids may be submitted in advance for any or all of the property listed in this Notice. The highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Advance bids may be submitted only in writing, signed by the bidder, and delivered to the law offices of Mailman & Kara, LLC, 2nd Floor, Tan Marikita Bldg., Beach Road at Cpl. Derence Jack Street, Garapan, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The bidder assumes all risk of non-delivery, late delivery, or mis-delivery of bids. Any person, including the plaintiff, may bid in person at the auction sale, whether or not such person has submitted an advance bid.

d. Disputes. The undersigned may resubmit any property listed in this Notice if a dispute arises as to any bid thereon.

Enforcement of Auction Sale.

a. Deposit. Every successful bidder shall pay to the undersigned a deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price immediately after the sale is consummated. Payment shall be in cash or by certified check. The balance must be paid to the plaintiff, in care of Mailman & Kara, LLC, within three (3) days from the date of sale, in cash or by certified check. If the balance is not so paid, plaintiff will retain the deposit as liquidated damages, and will again offer the property for sale.

b. Memorandum of Sale. If requested by the undersigned, every successful bidder must sign a Memorandum of Sale, immediately after the sale of any property is struck off at auction.

c. Court Approval. Every sale may be subject to approval by the Court. The auctioneer makes no warranties or promises with respect to court approval of the sale, including but not limited to the time in which such approval may be granted. No delay in the granting of court approval shall be ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any successful bidder. The successful bidder will be promptly notified if and when court approval is sought, and if and when it is granted.

Change of Terms and Conditions. The undersigned and the plaintiff reserve the right to change any of the terms hereof by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on all bidders by constructive notice.

DATED, this 7th day of June , 2012.

/s/ RONNIE D. HODGES, Auctioneer

Notice of Meeting
NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE
BOARD OF REGENTS' REGULAR MEETING

Date: Thursday, June 14, 2012
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Place: Northern Marianas College
BOR Conference Room
Saipan Campus

AGENDA

I. Call Meeting to Order
a. Roll Call
b. Review and Adoption of Agenda
c. Review and Adoption of Minutes
1. May 21, 2012 – Regular Meeting

II. Public Comment Period: Individuals may orally testify on items on this agenda during the Public Comment Period. Written testimony is also accepted. Testifiers are requested to limit their testimony to five (5) minutes.

III. Board Chair's Remarks

IV. WASC Accreditation Update (No action required)

V. Election of Officers (Action Item)
1. BOR Chairperson
2. BOR Vice-Chairperson
3. BOR Treasurer

VI. New Business
a. Board Policy for Consideration – First Reading
1. Board Policy No. 401 – Residency Classification **(Action Item)**
2. Board Policy No. 402 – Student Health Insurance **(Action Item)**
b. Board Policy for Consideration – Second Reading
1. Board Policy No. 202.3 – NMC Strategic Plan & Objectives **(Action Item)**
2. Board Policy No. 206.3 – Budget, Audit and Finance Committee **(Action Item)**
3. Board Policy No. 203 – President Recruitment and Hiring **(Action Item)**
4. Board Policy No. 203.1 – President's Authority and Responsibilities **(Action Item)**
5. Board Policy No. 206 – Policy Introduction, Amendment, Passage & Suspension **(Action Item)**
6. Board Policy No. 309.1 – Honorary Degrees **(Action Item)**

VII. Legislative Update

VIII. Reports
a. President's Report
1. Dean of Administration Report
b. Associated Students of NMC
c. Staff Senate
d. Faculty Senate

IX. Board Self-Evaluation

X. Executive Session
(At any time during the scheduled meeting of the Board of Regents may be required to enter into executive session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential)

XI. Upcoming Board Activities
1. Schedule Next Regular meeting – (Proposed) Friday, July 13, 2012
2. National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS) - Dennis Jones, Strategic Planning: August 27-29, 2012
3. ACCJC Visit: October 22-25, 2012

XII. Adjournment

/s/ Juan T. Lizama
BOR Chairperson
Date: June 7, 2012

Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper
Call 235-NEWS

LeBron, Heat top Celtics in Game 7, 101-88

MIAMI (AP)—LeBron James finally got a Game 7 victory, on his third try.

Next up, the NBA finals - and his third try at that elusive first championship. A year after watching someone else celebrate on their home floor, the Miami Heat were the ones dancing at midcourt.

James had 31 points and 12 rebounds, Chris Bosh hit a career-best three 3-pointers - the last sparking the run that put it away - and the Heat won their second straight Eastern Conference title by beating the Boston Celtics 101-88 in Game 7 on Saturday night.

Miami opens the title series in Oklahoma City on Tuesday night. The Heat got there by outscoring Boston 28-15 in the fourth quarter, with the "Big Three" of Wade, Bosh and James scoring every Miami point.

"We decided to come together and play together for a reason," Wade said.

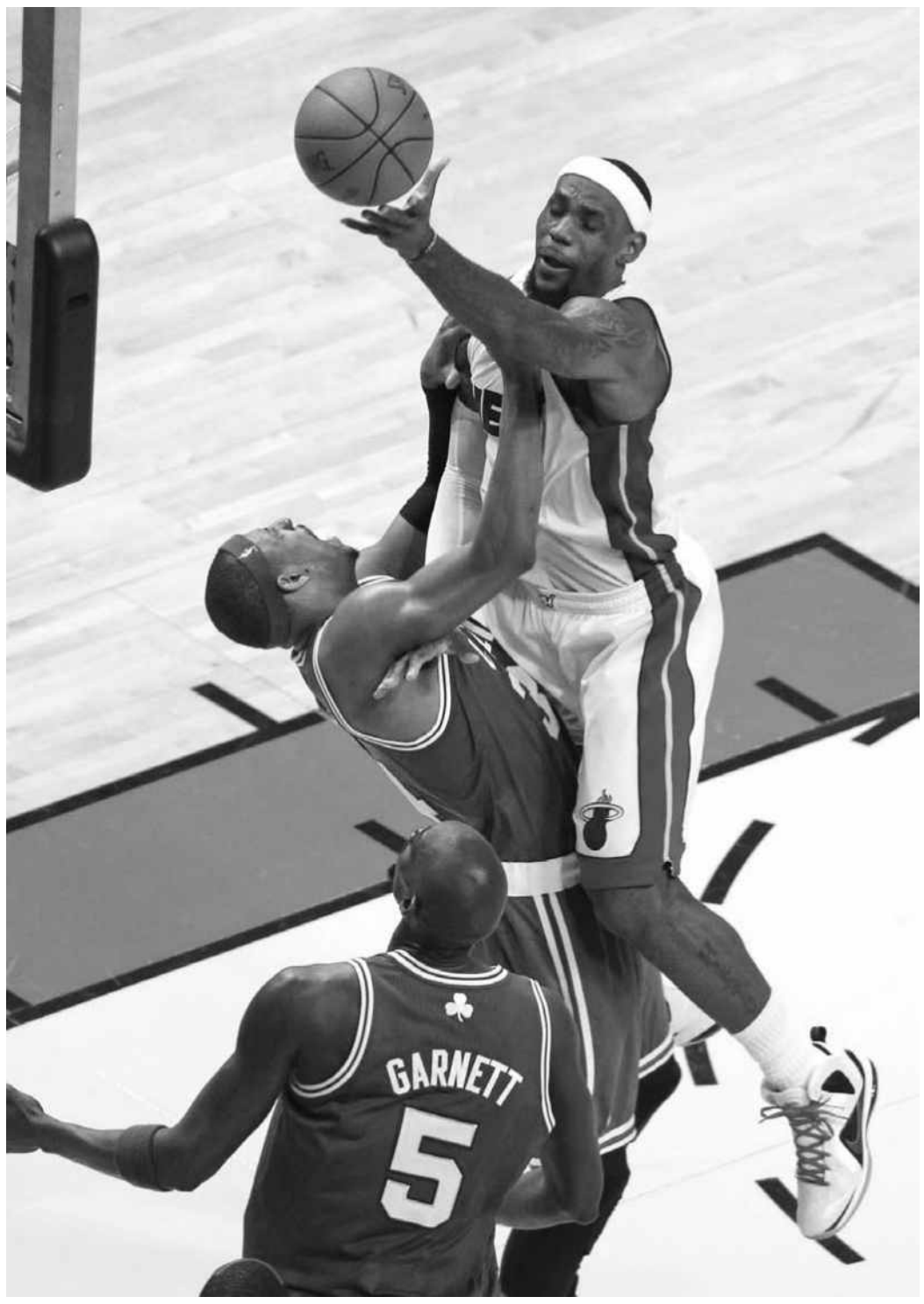
Wade scored 23 points, Bosh finished with 19 and Shane Battier added 12 for the Heat, who won a Game 7 for the first time since 2004 - Wade's rookie season. Now it's back to the finals, where Miami fell in six games to Dallas a year ago.

Rajon Rondo finished with 22 points, 14 assists and 10 rebounds for Boston, which got 19 points from Paul Pierce in what might be the last game of the "Big Four" era for the Celtics.

Boston took out its starters with 28.3 seconds left. By then, workers already had a rope around the perimeter of the court, preparing for the East trophy presentation.

"Give them credit," Rondo said. "They spread the points out as a team tonight. Give them credit. They played great tonight as a team and we just came up short."

When Heat President Pat Riley was shown on the giant overhead video screen in the moments just after the final buzzer, the crowd screamed. Riley finally acknowledged them with some claps, before the 2012 Eastern Conference champions logo was shown as players below the scoreboard high-fived and hugged, all wearing the new T-shirts and caps that marked the accomplishment.



Miami Heat's LeBron James (6) drives to the basket over Boston Celtics' Paul Pierce (34) during the second half of Game 7 of the NBA basketball playoffs Eastern Conference finals, Saturday, June 9, 2012, in Miami.

The screams kept coming, first when Alonzo Mourning took the microphone - "We still got a lot of work to do," Mourning said - and then again when he handed the trophy to Heat owner Micky Arison.

"A roller-coaster ride," Arison said.

A roller-coaster game, too. In a roller-coaster season.

All worth it - for now, anyway. The next step awaits, another shot at the finals. In a championship-or-bust season, the Heat board a plane for Oklahoma City on Sunday.

"We have been through a lot," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said.

James and Celtics coach Doc Rivers - who teared up often postgame - shared a long embrace when it was all over. Before coming to Miami for Game 7, Rivers had packed for Oklahoma City, a trip he won't make, set to now spend his time seeing if James can win that first title.

"I told him to go do it," Rivers said.

Down by seven at the half and eight early in the third quarter, Miami started clawing back. An 8-0 run tied it at 59-all, capped by Wade hitting a jumper, and then the fun really started.

There were six lead changes and five more ties in the final 7 minutes of the third. Bosh scored with 29 seconds left for the last of those ties, and it was 73-all going into the fourth.

Six games decided nothing, and nothing was decided in Game 7 until the very last moments, neither team yielding much of anything. Battier's 3-pointer with 8:06 left in the third cut Boston's lead at the time to 59-57.

And back and forth they went.

For the next 13 minutes, a span of 46 dizzying, unbelievable possessions, neither team led by more than two points.

That finally changed when Bosh his third 3-pointer with 7:17 left. James made a runner on the next Miami trip, and suddenly the Heat had their biggest lead of the night to that point, 88-82 with 6:54 remaining.

They were on their way.

"He was big time - every shot, every defensive play, every rebound - we missed him," James said of Bosh. "We're just happy to have him back at the right time. If it wasn't for him and the rest of the guys that stepped up, we don't win this game."

Said Spoelstra: "Our most important player."

James made a 3-pointer - it went into the books as a 30-footer, as he leaped from atop one of the Eastern Conference finals stickers on the floor - as the shot clock was expiring with just under 6 minutes left, making it 91-84.

"Backbreaker," Rivers said.

Even mistakes were going Miami's way, as James lost a behind-the-back dribble, only to have the ball skip right into Battier's hands.

Bosh scored from inside the lane to end that possession. Wade scored on the next one, the lead was 95-86 with 3:23 left, Boston called time and the building was simply rocking. James did plenty of talking on the Heat bench in that stoppage, clearly saying the word "Finish" at one point.

They listened. A three-point play by Wade with 2:53 left all but sealed it, the Heat were up 12, and Oklahoma City beckoned.

"We had nothing left," Rivers said. "That's how it felt, as a coach. ... But overall, I don't know if I've ever had a group like this."

Brandon Bass scored 16, Ray Allen finished with 15 and Kevin Garnett scored 14 for the Celtics, who know next season could bring big changes.

A team that was under .500 at the All-Star break almost made the NBA finals.

Almost.

"One game away on the road, banged up. ... I don't know if we could have gotten any more from the group," Rivers said.

Boston's first score came when the Celtics were inbounding from under their own basket with 1.2 seconds left on the shot clock. Rondo surveyed the defense, then decided to simply toss the ball off Wade's back, catch it and score himself.

It was an omen - the Celtics got plenty of easy scores early.

Boston ran out to a 23-14 lead, before the Heat settled down and tied it twice in the second quarter, the last of those at 35-all with 6:50 left. It was then that Garnett left with his third foul. Heat on a run, Garnett going to the bench, so momentum Miami, right?

Not quite.

Bass scored 10 points in a stretch of just over 3 minutes to spark a 14-3 run, with the Celtics scoring three times off turnovers in that stretch. Allen waltzed in unbothered for a layup with 22 seconds left in the half, and Boston took a 53-46 lead into the break. And the least surprised person in the arena was Rivers, who sensed at the morning shootaround that his team would be sharp for Game 7.

They were.

Just in the end, Miami was sharper.

"That's what we talk about," said James, who lost Game 7 appearances with Cleveland in 2006 and 2008. "It has to be a collective group to win the championship. Everybody was in tune today. We wanted to give our fans a big win. We look forward to the next challenge."

Boston faces uncertainty after loss to Miami

MIAMI (AP)—Doc Rivers had tears in his eyes. Rajon Rondo insisted more could have been done, even after he put up another triple-double. Ray Allen said he has years left in his legs.

The season is over for the Boston Celtics.

Only time will tell if this run of Celtics basketball is over as well.

LeBron James had 31 points and 12 rebounds, Chris Bosh hit a career-best three 3-pointers - the last sparking the run that put it away - and the Miami Heat won their second straight Eastern Conference title by beating the Celtics 101-88 in Game 7 on Saturday night.

So one "Big Three" - the one from Miami - is headed to an NBA finals matchup with Oklahoma City.

The other "Big Three" - the one from Boston, where it's technically been a "Big Four" - is headed into an offseason of uncertainty.

"It's tough. Everything's going so fast right now to think about it," Celtics forward Paul Pierce said. "I'm more disappointed about the loss. It's tough to think about it, especially when you didn't accomplish your goal to win the championship. There are a lot of emotions right now."

Miami opens the title series in Oklahoma City on Tuesday night. The Heat got there by outscoring Boston 28-15 in the fourth quarter, with the "Big Three" of Wade, Bosh and James scoring every Miami point.

"We decided to come together and play together for a reason," Wade said.

Wade scored 23 points, Bosh finished with 19 and Shane Battier added 12 for the Heat.

Rondo finished with 22 points, 14 assists and 10 rebounds for Boston, which got 19 points from Pierce in what might be the last game of the "Big Four" era for the Celtics. Boston took out its starters with 28.3 seconds left. By then, workers already had a rope around the perimeter of the court, preparing for the East trophy presentation.

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"I told him to go do it," Rivers said.

Boston battled injuries all season, all the way to the end. Allen said he'll need surgery soon to repair bone chips in his right ankle. Pierce has been playing through a sprained knee ligament.

It all hurt. Nothing hurt more than the final buzzer Saturday night.

"It's probably the worst feeling that we feel, in our lives, in our careers," Allen said. "There's nothing you can do about it. There's one team that wins that last game. We want to be that team every year. We've been through a lot. We've won a lot of games. At the end of every season, it always feels like it's it.

"This one hit me hard," Allen continued. "We wanted it so bad."

Down by seven at the half and eight early in the third quarter, Miami started clawing back. An 8-0 run tied it at 59-all, capped by Wade hitting a jumper, and then the fun really started. There were six lead changes and five more ties in the final 7 minutes of the third. Bosh scored with 29 seconds left for the last of those ties, and it was 73-all going into the fourth.

Vogelsong pitches Giants past Rangers

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)— Ryan Vogelsong pitched a season-high 7 2-3 innings and won his fifth straight decision, and Nate Schierholtz hit an RBI triple as the San Francisco Giants bounced back from their first shutout of the season to beat the Texas Rangers 5-2 on Saturday.

Ryan Theriot added an RBI single off Scott Feldman (0-5) while helping Vogelsong (5-2) run his unbeaten streak to seven outings since losing May 3 against Miami.

Giants slugger Pablo Sandoval also hit an RBI single in his first game since May 2, pumping his right fist as he ran it out in the seventh.

Mike Napoli and Mitch Moreland homered for the Rangers, who have lost three of four. Moreland's pinch-hit drive landed in McCovey Cove.

AP

San Francisco Giants starting pitcher Ryan Vogelsong throws to a Texas Rangers batter during the first inning of a baseball game in San Francisco, Saturday, June 9, 2012.

Angels 11, Rockies 5

In Denver, Albert Pujols homered and singled to drive in four runs and Mike Trout had three hits, including a two-run single, as Los Angeles earned its eighth straight road win.

Torii Hunter had three singles and scored three times to help the Angels to their longest road winning streak since taking eight straight from July 18-Aug. 2, 2009. Dan Haren (4-6) pitched 5 1-3 innings to get the victory.

Dodgers 8, Mariners 3

In Seattle, Jerry Hairston Jr. had a career-best five RBIs and Clayton Kershaw struck out a season-high 12 batters as the Dodgers rebounded from Friday's no-hit loss.

Hairston had three of the Dodgers' 14 hits, putting Los Angeles ahead with a three-run homer in the first against Jason Vargas (7-5). He added RBI doubles in the third and in eighth.

Yankees 4, Mets 2

In New York, Mark Teixeira hit a go-ahead home run and Phil Hughes won his third straight decision, sending the Yankees to the victory over the Mets.

Curtis Granderson also connected for the surging Yankees (33-25), who have won seven of nine to move a season-high eight games over .500.

Diamondbacks 8, Athletics 3

In Phoenix, Miguel Montero hit his second career grand slam as Arizona extended its winning streak to four games.

Trevor Cahill outpitched the Athletics' Jarrod Parker (2-3) in a matchup of starters traded for each other last offseason.

Tigers 3, Reds 2

In Cincinnati, Prince Fielder homered in the fourth inning and singled in the tiebreaking run in the eighth for Detroit.

Brennan Boesch started Detroit's two-out rally against Sean Marshall (1-3) with a double. After Miguel Cabrera was intentionally walked, Fielder softly lined a single to center to score Boesch.

Braves 5, Blue Jays 2

In Atlanta, Tommy Hanson shut down another American League East team and Dan Uggla hit a three-run homer as Atlanta picked up its season-best sixth straight win.

Braves rookie shortstop Andrelton Simmons hit his first career homer off Drew Hutchison (5-3) in the seventh.

Nationals 4, Red Sox 2

In Boston, Gio Gonzalez pitched 6 1-3 effective innings and Adam LaRoche hit a solo homer as Washington spoiled Daisuke Matsuzaka's return from reconstructive elbow surgery.

Ian Desmond had a two-run single and Michael Morse added an RBI double during a three-run fourth for Washington.

Pirates 5, Royals 3

In Pittsburgh, Neil Walker drove in the go-ahead run with a groundout during an eventful fourth inning as Pittsburgh earned its third consecutive victory to move four games over .500 at 31-27.

The Pirates are 11-3 since May 25, the best record in the major leagues in that span.

White Sox 10, Astros 1

In Chicago, Chris Sale pitched eight shutout innings to earn his fifth straight win and Adam Dunn had a grand slam and five RBIs for the White Sox.

Sale (8-2) allowed four singles, struck out seven and walked none while throwing 101 pitches.

Twins 11, Cubs 3

In Minneapolis, Trevor Plouffe had a double, a homer and four RBIs, and Scott Diamond pitched six scoreless innings for surging Minnesota.

Diamond (5-1) allowed seven hits and struck out five. Joe Mauer added three hits and two RBIs in his return from a sprained right thumb for the Twins.

Orioles 6, Phillies 4, 12 innings

In Baltimore, Adam Jones hit a two-run homer in the 12th as the Orioles won their eighth straight extra-inning game.

Jim Thome, Jimmy Rollins and Hector Luna homered for the Phillies, who have lost seven of eight. Hunter Pence added four hits.

Rays 13, Marlins 4

In Miami, Ben Zobrist homered twice and drove in four runs to lead Tampa Bay to its third consecutive win.

Jose Molina and Elliot Johnson had three RBIs apiece for the Rays. Matt Moore (3-5) struck out nine and allowed four runs in six innings.

Cardinals 2, Indians 0

In St. Louis, Kyle Lohse allowed three hits in 7 2-3 innings to outpitch Justin Masterson as Carlos Beltran hit his National League-leading 17th homer for St. Louis.

Michael Brantley had two singles to extend his hitting streak to 17 games for Cleveland.

Padres 5, Brewers 2

In Milwaukee, Ross Ohlendorf had a strong relief outing as San Diego strung together four consecutive singles in a sixth-inning rally.

Ohlendorf (1-0), signed by the Padres on June 4, pitched 4 1-3 innings to earn the victory.

Union Rags nips Paynter to win Belmont Stakes

NEW YORK (AP)— Union Rags picked up right where I'll Have Another left off, coming from behind to catch a Bob Baffert-trained horse at the finish in a Triple Crown race.

In Saturday's Belmont Stakes, it was another photo finish decided by a neck. Just like the Preakness.

The 3-year-old bay colt barreled through a slim opening on the rail to edge Paynter, dealing Baffert, jockey Mike Smith and owner Ahmed Zayat a third loss in this year's Triple Crown series.

"We needed every bit of the mile and a half," winning trainer Michael Matz said.

I'll Have Another won the Kentucky Derby and Preakness with stirring stretch drives over Baffert's Bodemeister. But the champion stunned the racing world Friday when he was scratched from the Belmont and retired due to a tendon injury, relinquishing a shot at the first Triple Crown sweep since 1978 and only the 12th ever.

His absence opened up the race for Union Rags, who finished a troubled seventh in the Derby after a bumpy start.

Union Rags skipped the Preakness and because of the Derby problems switched jockeys for the Belmont - from Julien Leparoux to John Velazquez, who picked up his second Belmont victory; he won in 2007 with filly Rags to Riches.

"I have to give it to the horse. He did it all for me. He just worked so unbelievable and I was just hoping he could put that work into today's race and he did," said Velazquez, who will enter racing's Hall of Fame in August. "I was very proud of him.'"

A crowd of 85,811, cheered as Paynter and Union Rags furiously battled down the stretch, with Union Rags barely catching the front-runner in the second straight photo finish to decide a Triple Crown race this year.

"Is there a Triple Crown for seconds?" Baffert said. "I really felt like I was going to win the Belmont. It was snatched away again."

Zayat was just as bummed, calling it "a heartbreaking defeat."

"He ran his guts out," he said, referring to Paynter, who was making just his fourth career start. "I'm very disappointed we opened the rail for (Union Rags)."

Jockey Mike Smith took the blame.

"I'm an old veteran, you know," he said. "They're not supposed to get through on the fence on me, and he did. I dropped the ball. My fault."

Union Rags was along the inside in the middle of the pack until it was time to make a move for the lead, and that's when Velazquez guided him to the inside of the front-running Paynter. Turning for home, Union Rags was full of run, but needed an opening. Velazquez had no room to swing outside, so he focused on finding a hole along the rail. Suddenly, a sliver appeared when Paynter slid over just enough to let Union Rags through in the final sixteenth of a mile. And then it was a charge to the finish line.

They raced head-to-head, with both jockeys furiously whipping their horses in the shadow of the wire. Union Rags stuck a neck in front at the end and gave fans a thrilling finish that was certainly reminiscent of the sidelined I'll Have Another.

Love heads up 3-way tie after 3 rounds in Memphis

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)— Davis Love III thinks he's playing as well as he did earlier this year before pulling a rib muscle at Bay Hill. Now the U.S. Ryder Cup captain is eager to see just how much he might do.

Love III shot his third straight 2-under 68 on Saturday to join Nick O'Hern and John Merrick atop the leaderboard at the windy St. Jude Classic. Asked what his first PGA Tour win since 2008 would mean, the 48-year-old Love had a quick answer.

"Be a lot of Ryder Cup points," Love said.

With a win, Love is projected to jump from 63 into the top 30 in the Ryder Cup standings. Love started off this year excited about how he was playing before injuries slowed him down. He wound up not playing at all for about six weeks after withdrawing on the final day at the Arnold Palmer Invitational in late March before returning at The Players Championship.

Love tied for 16th at the Memorial last week, then played 36 holes in Columbus, Ohio, to qualify for his 23rd U.S. Open. He committed late to play in Memphis, making sure he was healthy enough to use this event as a final tuneup.

Love had three birdies and only one bogey Saturday to match O'Hern and Merrick at 6- under 204, the highest 54-hole lead on tour this year. O'Hern had a 67, and Merrick shot 69. The man with 20 career PGA wins said obviously there's a lot of pressure and he wants to win. He has only two wins since winning four times in 2003.

"Is it a big huge deal in my career that I have to win this week? No. But when you get up there at the top ... the old feeling kicks in. You concentrate better, you focus better and my routines of the day were coming down those last four, five holes. And I missed a couple putts, but I felt like I was right in like old times ... focused and playing and enjoying it," Love said.

"So it would mean a lot to win for sure. Anytime you win out here is important. But it's fun to be in it."

Rory McIlroy, who will try to defend his U.S. Open title next week at The Olympic Club in San Francisco, had a one-stroke lead when he teed off. He shot a 2-over 72 in a round that featured six bogeys and four birdies to drop in a tie at 5 under.

Dustin Johnson, making his second start after a 2 1/2-month layoff recovering from back pain, also was in the group at 5 under after a 67 that included a bogey on No. 18. J.B. Holmes was in that knot atop the leaderboard going to No. 18, but hit his tee shot into a bunker and three-putted for a double bogey to finish at 4 under.

Conditions got tougher Saturday as the greens firmed up at the TPC Southwind course along with the wind picking up through the day and gusting up to 23 mph at times. PGA Tour officials already have pushed up tee times Sunday morning and will use threesomes off both tees hoping to squeeze in the final round before thunderstorms expected in the afternoon.

BRADLEY

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Bradley came on strong in the later rounds, winning five of the last six rounds on two scorecards and four on the third. He won 115-113 on two scorecards, while losing on the third by the same margin. The Associated Press had Pacquiao winning 117-111.

"I did my best," Pacquiao said. "I guess my best wasn't good enough."

Pacquiao tried to turn the fight into a brawl, using his power to hurt Bradley in the early rounds. But Bradley changed tactics in the middle rounds and used his boxing skills to win enough rounds to take the narrow decision for the welterweight title.

It ended a 15-fight winning streak by Pacquiao dating to 2005 that turned him into a boxing superstar and made him a national hero in the Philippines.

"I thought I won the fight," Bradley said. "I didn't think he was as good as everyone says he was. I didn't feel his power."

Ringside punching statistics showed Pacquiao landing 253 punches to 159 for Bradley, who vowed before the fight to take the 147-pound title from Pacquiao. The Compubox statistics showed Pacquiao landing more punches in 10 of the 12 rounds.

Bradley was so confident that he had oversized tickets printed up for a Nov. 10 rematch that will now likely happen.

Bradley seemed hurt in the fourth and fifth rounds, but Pacquiao had trouble landing big punches after that. Still, he seemed in control of the fight everywhere but on the judge's scorecards.

"Can you believe that? Unbelievable," Arum said. "I went over to Bradley before the decision and he said, `I tried hard but I couldn't beat the guy.'"

Bradley said he hurt his ankle in the second round, and that trainer Joel Diaz said he could either quit or try to take the fight to Pacquiao.

"I got my second wind in the sixth round," Bradley said. "I worked the angles, sticking and moving.

Pacquiao said he studied Bradley on tape before the fight and wasn't surprised by anything he did. He said he thought he was in control of the fight and was shocked when the decision went against him.

"He never hurt me with his punches, most of them landed on my arms," Pacquiao said.

Pacquiao tried to brawl with Bradley and seemed to hurt him in both the fourth and fifth rounds. But Bradley started moving and counter punching, though he never seemed to land any shots that hurt Pacquiao.

Pacquiao had vowed to look impressive against Bradley after struggling in his last outing with Juan Manuel Marquez, a fight many thought he lost. And he did early, landing good long left hands while beating Bradley to the punch on most exchanges.

"He hurt me a couple of times with his left," Bradley said. "He's a beast."

Trainer Freddie Roach told Pacquiao after the 10th round that he had control of the fight, and urged him to fight hard the final two rounds.

"You have six minutes to go, son," Roach said. "It's your fight."

But it wasn't Pacquiao's fight, with Bradley getting credit for winning some of the close middle and later rounds. After the 11th round Bradley went back to his corner and trainer Joel Diaz told him he needed to win the final round.

"I listened to my corner," Bradley said. "I got to give him a rematch now."

Arum said there will be one on Nov. 10, though he thought Pacquiao won easily, as did most writers at ringside.

"I'll make a lot of money off the rematch, but this was outrageous," Arum said.

It was the biggest fight of Bradley's career and it came with a minimum $5 million payday. The rematch will be even richer, though Pacquiao's loss could damage any plans for a fight with Floyd Mayweather Jr.

Mayweather did not see the fight because he is serving a sentence on a domestic abuse charge at a jail a few miles from the MGM Grand.

SHARAPOVA

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everyone thought it would," she said about her shoulder. "That was the frustrating thing, because it was like, `When is this going to end?'"

It took until her 10th post-surgery Grand Slam tournament for Sharapova to get back to a major final, at Wimbledon last July, but she lost. She also reached the Australian Open final this January, but lost again.

Really, though, there's something apropos about Sharapova's fourth career Grand Slam title - and first since her shoulder was fixed - coming in Paris, rounding out the quartet at a spot that always seemed to present the most difficulties. Her powerful shots lose some sting on clay, and the footing can be tricky for anyone who didn't grow up on the rust-colored stuff.

A global celebrity with millions upon millions of dollars in endorsement deals, Sharapova put herself through the grind required to get back to the top of her sport - and to get better than ever on red clay.

She's unbeaten in 16 matches on it this season, including titles at Stuttgart and Rome.

"I could have said, `I don't need this. I have money; I have fame; I have victories; I have Grand Slams.' But when your love for something is bigger than all those things, you continue to keep getting up in the morning when it's freezing outside, when you know that it can be the most difficult day, when nothing is working, when you feel like the belief sometimes isn't there from the outside world, and you seem so small," said Sharapova, who will return to No. 1 for the first time since June 2008 in Monday's WTA rankings. "But you can achieve great things when you don't listen to all those things."

Errani, for her part, never paid attention to those who said a 5-foot-4 1/2 woman couldn't possibly compete against the very best in tennis. Posing at the net before the match, the 6-foot-2 Sharapova towered over her opponent - then was head-and-shoulders above Errani when play began, too.

"I started badly, and that's what bothers me the most," said the 21st-seeded Errani, who admitted she was overcome by nerves at the outset. "You can't do that against players like her, because she was only going to get better once she loosened up."

Born 10 days apart in April 1987, both trained as kids at Nick Bollettieri's academy in Florida (Errani says she lost badly in their only head-to-head match there; Sharapova says she has no recollection). Both were playing in the French Open final for the first time.

The similarities end there, though. Sharapova was playing in her seventh Grand Slam singles final; Errani in her first, although she did team with Roberta Vinci to win the women's doubles title Friday. Errani was 19-18 for her career in major tournaments before these wonderful two weeks; Sharapova was 122-32.

Plus, Errani lost all 28 of her career matches against top-10 opponents until beating No. 10 Angelique Kerber in the quarterfinals and No. 6 Sam Stosur in the semifinals, after victories over past French Open champions Ana Ivanovic and Svetlana Kuznetsova in earlier rounds.

It was hardly shocking that the second-seeded Sharapova raced to a 4-0 lead within 14 minutes. Or that she produced 12 of the match's first 13 winners. Errani was able to make things more interesting when she managed to stretch points longer and longer, consistently coming out on top when exchanges lasted more than 10 strokes, her staccato grunts of "Heh!" contrasting with Sharapova's aria-like shrieks an octave or two higher.

As lopsided as the eventual result was, Errani made Sharapova earn it with winner after winner, and a 37-12 edge in that category.

"She hits very hard, very flat and very deep shots, barely over the net. She never let me do what I wanted to do. I always felt like I was being pushed around," Errani said. "I didn't play my best, but she also deserves credit for that."

Serving for the championship, Sharapova faced one last gut-check.

She frittered away one match point by shoving a forehand long, and Errani took the next point with a bold drop shot. Facing break point, Sharapova hit a backhand winner. Moments later, Errani saved Sharapova's second match point, with yet another superb drop shot.

The French fans - eager for more tennis, and always ones to back an underdog - began chanting, "Sa-ra! Sa-ra!"

"I started to laugh," Errani said later. "It seemed surreal - to play against Sharapova; on center court; a full stadium; everyone yelling my name."

That turned out to be Sharapova's cue. She got her third match point with a 110 mph (178 kph) ace, No. 6 of the afternoon - what shoulder injury? - and this time converted when Errani's sliced backhand hit the net.

Sharapova dropped her racket, covered her face with her hands and fell to her knees, muddying them with clay. Soon enough, she was cradling the silver champion's cup and biting her lower lip while listening to the Russian national anthem.

About 1 1/2 hours later, at the start of her postmatch news conference, Sharapova was presented with a specially made glass trophy containing a cross-section of a clay court. Marking her completion of a career Grand Slam, it was etched with Saturday's date, Sharapova's name, and the years of her four major titles.

"Oh, this is beautiful. I never thought I would get this," Sharapova said. "I never thought I would want red clay, but I do. Now I do."

SIP

From Page 28

several easy shots at the paint.

SIP's 14-point advantage was stretched to as much as 25 in the third canto, before Boholano made a rally midway in the third to move within 14, 41-55, but the former had a 12-2 windup in the last three minutes of that canto to pull away anew.

John Darag paced SIP with his 19 points and his three other teammates also scored in double figures. Mike Yap and John John Capuyon had 15 and 12, respectively, for Boholano.

Bayani/DYS 71, MDX 63

In the other U20 game, Bayani/DYS thwarted MDX/Mariana Resort's fourth-quarter ally to improve to a 2-0 record.

Bayani held MDX to 10 points in the third period to turn a 34-27 lead to a 52-37 advantage, entering the fourth canto. MDX tried to recover in the fourth, outgunning Bayani, 26-19, but fell short as the former's Jaymark De Guzman, Chris Mizer, and Jack Aranda canned game-saving baskets in the end. The trio combined for Bayani's last 11 points with De Guzman scoring five straight, Aranda making a 3-point play and Mizer tallying the team's last three points.

De Guzman finished with 13, Mizer added 11, and Emerson Feria and Nevin Salem chipped in 10 apiece in Bayani's balance offense.

Eugene Manglona had 15 for MDX, while Sahj Hossain and Adrian Palacios contributed 12 and 10, respectively. Melvin Cadiang, who had double figures in MDX's first two wins, was the missing link in their third match, logging only four points and scoreless in the first three quarters.

U14
MDX/Armatech 88, VisMinda 45

The lone game in the U14 division had MDX/Armatech whipping VisMinda/Hi-Five.

The win was only the first in two games for MDX, while VisMinda fell to a 0-2 card.

MDX controlled the match right at the opening buzzer, taking a 21-9 lead, and never gave VisMinda a chance to launch a comeback.

Karl Aldan top-scored for MDX/Armatech with his 22 points, while Braylan Floresca and Mark Ogasawara fired 20 and 10, respectively. Seven other MDX players made it to the scoreboard against only six from the depleted VisMinda crew. Jethro Cruz paced VisMinda with his 13 markers, while Jordan Butcher-Wade made 11.

First Game

MDX/Armatech 88 – Aldan 22, Floresca 20, Ogasawara 10, Borromeo 6, Deocares 6, Cadua 6, Francisco 5, Feria 5, Cudia 4, Cobacha 2.

VisMinda/Hi-Five 45 – Cruz 13, Butcher 11, Diyco 9, Sabangan 7, Pangelinan 5, Lucido 3.

Scoring by quarters: 21-9, 33-19, 64-30, 88-45.

Second Game

Bayani/DYS 71 – De Guzman 13, Mizer 11, Salem 10, Feria 10, Mariano 6, Alegre 6, Aranda 5, Tudela 4, Villanueva 2.

MDX/Mariana Resort 63 – Manglona 15, Hossain 12, Palacios 10, Ano 7, Caro 4, Mettao 4, Cadiang 4, Deleon Guerrero 2.

Scoring by quarters: 14-12, 34-27, 52-37, 71-63.

Third Game

SIP/Barney's 91 – Darag 19, Vertudez 12, Moran 11, Sacramento 10, Francisco 7, Salas 6, Dela Rosa 6, Oreola 4, Maranan 4.

Boholano/AON 71 – Yap 15, Capuyon 12, Javier 9, Sanarez 9, De Leon 6, Lapuz 4, Escalada 4, Palacios 3, Villagomez 2.

Scoring by quarters: 26-12, 44-29, 67-43, 91-71.

NVM

From Page 27

edged Ashley's.

DLX assumed control in the first quarter with three early bird killers for a promising 17-4 lead.

However, Ashley's roared back to within a basket at the half, 29-31, thanks to a pair of long range strikes from Wowie Abuel and Randy Mungcal and contributions from their four other teammates in the second quarter.

DLX saved a two-point halftime lead with Elmer Esdrelon scoring 10 points in the first half.

Noel David came off the bench for DLX and delivered a handful of markers in the third quarter, while Esdrelon, Darwin Barbo, and Junar Guiab added four apiece to keep the driver's seat, 50-46, heading into the final canto.

Jack Lizama mustered seven points in the third to help keep Ashley's in the game, but was held to two buckets in the payoff period, failing to give support to Edmark Mendoza, who scored six points late in the game.

Esdrelon and Barbo buried a pair of pressured free throws, while Sam Fernandez canned the final charity to seal the deal. Esdrelon finished with a team-high 16, while Lizama led all scorers with 19.

SATURDAY
First Game

R-Rebels 84 – Fitial 17, Lisua 14, Ogumoro 13, Ulloa 8, E. Camacho 7, Teregeyo 7, Reyes 5, Ichnis 4, Norita 4, Hambros 3, Nawaz 2, Litulumar 2.

QQ Rent A Car 62 – Mangali 23, Faisao 11, Sison 9, Pagarao 7, B. Camacho 5, Paraiso 4, Cruz 2

Scoring by quarters: 30-16, 46-23, 58-48, 84-61.

Second Game

NVM 79 – Barcinas 20, Joyner 19, Mendiola 14, Basa 13, Manibusan 6, Mina 2, Ritual 2, Cadiang 2, Deleon 1.

Hip Hop Thunder 65 – I. Devero 28, D. Mateo 11, Libuw 6, Sacramento 8, C. Devero 4, N. Mateo 3, Concepcion 2, Tumaquip 2, Castro 1.

Scoring by quarters: 15-8, 36-27, 53-51, 79-65.

THURSDAY
First Game

Loving Hands 73 – Lerio 21, Gabaldon 16, Rabauliman 7, Aquino 6, Barrios 6, Johannes 8, Tabora 5, Jugos 4.

Saipan Hardware 67 – Quan 18, Lauron 16, R. Babauta 7, D. Tenorio 6, Z. Diaz 4, Palacios 4, Park 4, Peredo 4, Z. Babauta 2, J. Diaz 2

Scoring by quarters: 10-16, 40-27, 52-39, 73-67.

Second Game

DLX 66 – Esdrelon 16, Barbo 14, Guiab 10, David 9, Galarse 5, Abedes 4, Muleta 2, Fernandez 1.

Ashley's 61 – J. Lizama 19, Mendoza 10, Ito 9, Mungcal 8, Cortez 8, Abuel 7.

Scoring by quarters: 17-4, 31-29, 50-46, 66-61.

NVM holds off Hip Hop Thunder in Blue Haus caging

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@sdaipantribune.com
REPORTER

Some late transition strikes in the fourth quarter lifted NVM past Hip Hop Thunder, 79-65, during the Division B game in the 2012 Blue Haus Invitational Basketball League last Saturday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

NVM improved to a 2-1 record, while the Thunder dropped to a 1-3 card.

NVM rung in a couple of early three-pointers for a 15-8 favor in the opening period and stretched the lead to 36-20 at halftime. Jawn Joyner led the uprise with nine points, while Dan Mateo scrambled for 11 on the other end to keep the Thunder alive.

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
NVM's Dan Barcinas drives to the hole against Hip Hop Thunder's Gino Libuw during their game in the 2012 Blue Haus Invitational Basketball League last Saturday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Mateo's effort inspired teammate Ivan Devero to drop 14 points in the third quarter and pull the group within a basket, 51-53, heading into the final period.

Devero tallied eight more points early in the fourth quarter, but the group fell out of sync in the final five minutes.

Meanwhile, NVM's Dan Barcinas caught a second wind and ran the court for 10 big points in the clutch, including a sign-off trey in the last minutes to pretty much caused their opponents to throw in the towel.

Barcinas finished with 20 points to pace NVM, while Devero fronted the box score with 28.

R-Rebels 84, QQ Rent A Car 61

In the first game last Saturday, the R-Rebels whipped QQ Rent A Car, 84-61.

R-Rebels shot out of the gate for an early 30-16 margin in the first quarter. Trevor Ogumoro and Ben Lisua led the early charge with six points apiece.

The R-Rebels were not finished and unloaded another assault in the second quarter, while limiting QQ Rent A Car to just seven points in the period. The R-Rebels buried three more from downtown and also drew contributions from Kelvin Fitial to enjoy a 46-23 advantage at midpoint before QQ trimmed the deficit to 10 48-58, heading into crunch time. Elgene Mangali led the third-quarter charge with a baker's dozen.

A pair of three-pointers kept R-Rebels in control and stopped QQ's rally. Fitial muscled his way for eight points in the final period and finished with a team-high 17, while Mangali topped the field with 23.

THURSDAY
Loving Hands 73, Saipan Hardware 67

In the Thursday opener, Loving Hands Daycare (2-1) overcame Saipan Hardware (2-1).

Loving Hands fell behind early, 10-16, but came back in the second quarter and surged ahead at halftime, 40-27. Yosh Gabaldon and Sonny Lerio nailed three triples apiece in the first half and the latter finished the break with 16 points.

Saipan Hardware faced a 13-point halftime deficit as it got most of its buckets from Alex Lauron and Tim Quan. The duo was then held to just eight points in the third quarter as Loving Hands pulled away, 52-39,

In the fourth quarter, Saipan Hardware connected with three strikes from behind the arch to threaten a comeback, but Loving Hands sunk two bombs on the other end and made seven free throws to secure the victory.

Lerio turned in a game-high 21 points, while Quan and Lauron combined for 34 on the short end.

DLX 66, Ashley's 61

In the second game, DLX

See NVM on Page 26

Norita, Camacho lead batting race in Budweiser league

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Natibu's Bruce Norita and Sakudi's Bert Camacho are the frontrunners in the batting race in the 2nd Annual Budweiser Chamolinian Softball League.

Norita upholds a stout 0.885 batting average ahead of X-clusive's Vince Cepeda, Man Amigos' Jerry Guerrero, Your Balls' Audie Maratita, Man Amigos' Roy Celis, Familia's Colin Reyes and Lawrence Dikito, SaiPal's Lis Ngiraikelau, Manelos' Niko Martin and SaiPal's Marino Hiroichi.

Cepeda leads in runs batted in with 28 with Norita (26), G-Ballers' Asap Ogumoro (23), Ngiraikelau (22), G-Ballers' Jay Salalila (21), Martin (20), Maratita (19) and Familia duo JD Dikito (19) and Patrick Guerrero (19) all in the race.

Guerrero and G-Ballers' Leo Blas both lead in runs scored with 21, however Blas' teammates Jude Dickinson and Paul Salalila, Maratita and SaiPal's Lefty Shiro are hot in pursuit.

Norita

Camacho

Berdax's Frank Robert, Paul Salalila, Manelos' Shane Mendiola, Talu Fahn's Eric Cabrera and Natibu's John Reyes each have two triples, which lead 21 others with one apiece. Angel Reyes is topping the field in doubles with six in front of both Oliver Secharmedal of Your Balls and Dickinson's four with Celis, Berdax's Jesse Tenorio, Gagu Eye's Swain Cangco, Saipal's Kuich Damian, Familia's Nizer Masayos, Warriors' Josh Garde, Maratita, and Your Balls trio JP Lizama, Marvin Kaipat and Mike Taitano all scoring three thus far.

In the women's division, Camacho boasts an 0.840 hitting rate to lead Enamo Meta's Julie Guerrero (0.760), teammates Liz Lebria (0.630) and Eileen Babauta (0.625), 670 Babes' Tani Masga (0.591), Enamo's Evelyn Kani (0.545), Check It Out's Keolani Rios (0.522), Enamo's Cleo Baulechong (0.519), Sakudi's Thelma Mizer (0.478) and 670's Edilyn Benjamin (0.462). The stats were based on 12 at bats or more.

Mizer and Check It's Jovie Omar hold a share of the lead in RBIs with 13 each, ahead of Kani (9), Sakudi's Kiki Aldan (70), Babauta (7) Camacho (7), Julie Guerrero (7), Lebria (7), Masga (7), Check It's Minami Tadokoro (7), Benjamin (6), and Vanessa Williams (6).

Lebria's 17 runs are ahead of Baulechong (16), Sakudi's Juljean Ngeskebei (14), Camacho (13), Julie Guerrero (13), 670's Catalina Dela Cruz (12), Benjamin (12), 670's Melissa Benjamin (12), Check It's Janelle Brel (12), and Rios (12).

Lebria also paces the field in triples with three, ahead of Melissa Benjamin's two; 10 others have one.

Babauta's three doubles lead a handful of others with two apiece; 13 ladies have one each.

Taisacan, Matsumoto top pitching

In pitching, Berdax hurler Ben Taisacan has allowed 12 earned runs through 15 innings off 26 hits for a 5.60 Earned Run Average to head the category ahead of Elias' Rodney Camacho (43ER/52IP/115H/5.79 ERA), Gagu's JR Brel (50ER/60IP/123H/5.83ERA), Man-Amigos' Mike Sablan (27ER/31.1IP/59H/6.08ERA), X-clusive's John Acosta (8ER/9.1IP/8H/6.15ERA), Gagu's Ping Santos (8ER/9IP/22H/6.22ERA), Saipal's Leo Bobai (41ER/45.1IP/91H/6.36ERA), 6-Pack's Mel Aldan (18ER/19IP/60H/6.63ERA), and Natibu's Jerry Guerrero (51ER/52IP/115H/6.87ERA).

Bobai, Paul Salalila, Managaha's Emilio Santos Jr. and Frank Ermitanio share the lead in strikeouts with 11.

Check It Out's Eula Matsumoto has allowed just one earned run through seven innings off 11 hits to top the women's field with an even 1.00 ERA. Babauta (6ER/33IP/47H/1.27ERA), Enamo's Felisa Brel (3ER/11IP/23H/1.91ERA), Omar (9ER/25IP/48H/2.52ERA), Rookies' Connie Lizama (9ER/17IP/29H/3.71ERA), and 670 duo Dolorina Panuelo (13ER/21IP/43H/4.33ERA) and Semerina Simram (16ER/22.1IP/67H/5.07ERA) are also on the list.

Babauta also leads in strikeouts with 17, ahead of Laniyo (10), Deleon Guerrero (10), Omar (9) and Simram (9).

Manelos, Natibu down foes

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Manelos and Natibu recorded separates wins in the men's division of the 2nd Annual Budweiser Chamolinian Softball League last week at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

Manelos defeated Berdax in extra inning, 16-13, while Natibu breezed past Elias, 21-10, in five innings. In the lone women's game, Check It Out was awarded victory via forfeiture over Enamo Meta.

Pete Tomokane of Manelos broke the 4-all deadlock from the opening frame when he drove in a runner in the top of the third inning. However Berdax's Jesse Tenorio knotted the game back at 5-all with a sacrifice fly in the fourth and scored Dave Camacho.

Manelos' Shane Mendiola led off the fifth inning with a triple and was escorted home by Tomokane before teammate Angel Reyes belted a three-run homer in the next frame.

Berdax bit back and tied it up again at 9-all in the bottom portion off a sacrifice fly by Franco Flores and a three-run shot by Dave Camacho.

The game was then forced into an extra inning after Berdax and Manelos ended up in a stalemate for the fourth time in the last inning of regulation.

In the extension, Manelos' Derek Aughenbaugh led off with a solo blast and Nicko Martin hammered an RBI double before stealing home in the top half, while Berdax's Shine Tenorio delivered a two-run homer, followed by an RBI single from Ton Manibusan.

Manelos then moved around four runs in the bonus frame off five hits, an RBI fielder's choice by Mendiola and a sacrifice fly by Reyes; Jay Camacho and Pat Alepuyo bagged RBI singles and Pete hit an RBI double.

Berdax was held to one run in the final stand.

Tomokane batted 5-for-6 with four RBIs and a run. Jay Camacho went 4-for-5 with an RBI, three runs, and a base on balls.

In the other men's game, Natibu amassed a 12-4, lead off 11 hits in the first inning and never looked back.

Jerome Delos Santos started the fire with a three-run homer, while B.J. Sablan, Victor Salas, and Erik Kani each bagged two-RBI singles, and Oscar Sablan, Kent Kalen and Jon Welson added RBI singles.

Both teams added three runs in the second inning before Natibu trudged further ahead, 21-7, in the third of another seven hits. Welson bagged an RBI single and Dave Kapileo left the yard for three runs.

Elias managed three runs in its last two chances at the plate, but never postured a real comeback.

Delos Santos swung 3-for-3 with 3 RBIs and another run.

DLX/Irish Spring gains third straight win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

DLX/Irish Spring extended its winning streak to three after outclassing Marianas Water, 68-59, in the Bracket A game in the 2012 DLX/DL JOS Inter-Color Basketball League last Friday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

After a slim 51-50 lead at the end of the third period, DLX/Irish Spring limited Marianas Water to nine points in the fourth quarter en route to the 9-point win.

Art Trajano led DLX/Irish Spring's victory with his season-high 25 points. He was the lone DLX/Irish Spring player to score in double figures, but he still drew enough contribution from his teammates, as four of them made at least six points apiece.

Bernard Montano was one the four, nailing DLX/Irish Spring's last four points to put the team in front, 51-50, after falling behind at the break, 31-36.

Then in the fourth canto, Marianas Water could not get their offense going early and when it did, DLX/Irish Spring had already secured a safe distance to steal the win. Only three players scored for Marianas Water in the fourth period with Joseph Galulu making four points and Resty Vergara and Melvin Capalad adding two and three, respectively.

As for DLX/Irish Spring, it was a team effort in the fourth with Bernard Samson, Sam Fernandez, Rick Brien, Roy Hernandez, and Trajano contributing to the cause.

Trajano got off to a good start, firing DLX/Irish Spring's first nine points. Not to be outdone was Galulu, who knocked in eight, keeping Marianas Water in the game, 11-14.

Galulu added nine more markers in the second canto, scoring seven in succession, while Christian Devero chipped in eight to put Marianas Water in the driver's seat at halftime, 36-31.

However, Marianas Water failed to keep the momentum in the second half, as Galulu was held scoreless in the third and had only two field goals in the fourth, while Devero was limited to six markers in the entire second half and their teammates did not step up.

R-Lyn's 66, Gualo Rai 65

In the Bracket B game, R-Lyn's survived Gualo Rai.

The win was only the first in three games for R-Lyn's, while Gualo Rai dropped to a 0-3 card.

R-Lyn's led in the first three quarters and thwarted Gualo Rai's fourth-quarter rally to break into the win column.

Mar Diaz paced R-Lyn's with his 18 points, including four of the team's 10 markers in the payoff canto. Noel Puno added 13, while his son, Mark made 8. Allen Reyes and Joel Buniag also had eight points apiece for R-Lyn's.

JP Jose led Gualo Rai's losing cause with his 15 markers.

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Sports

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Bradley beats Pacquiao in controversial decision

By TIM DAHLBERG
AP BOXING WRITER

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Timothy Bradley promised to shock, though the biggest shock in his fight with Manny Pacquiao came from the judges' scorecards.

BOXING

In a fight Pacquiao seemed to have in hand, two judges decided otherwise, giving Bradley a split decision Saturday night and ending the Filipino fighter's remarkable seven-year unbeaten run.

Promoter Bob Arum fumed, the crowd at the MGM Grand arena booed, and Pacquiao seemed stunned when the decision was announced. Arum said there would be a November rematch, though he blasted the way the decision went down.

"I've never been as ashamed of the sport of boxing as I am tonight," said Arum, who handles both fighters.

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Manny Pacquiao, from the Philippines, right, lands a left to the head of Timothy Bradley, from Palm Springs, Calif., in their WBO world welterweight title fight Saturday, June 9, 2012, in Las Vegas.

AP

Sharapova sweeps Errani for 1st French Open title

By HOWARD FENDRICH
AP TENNIS WRITER

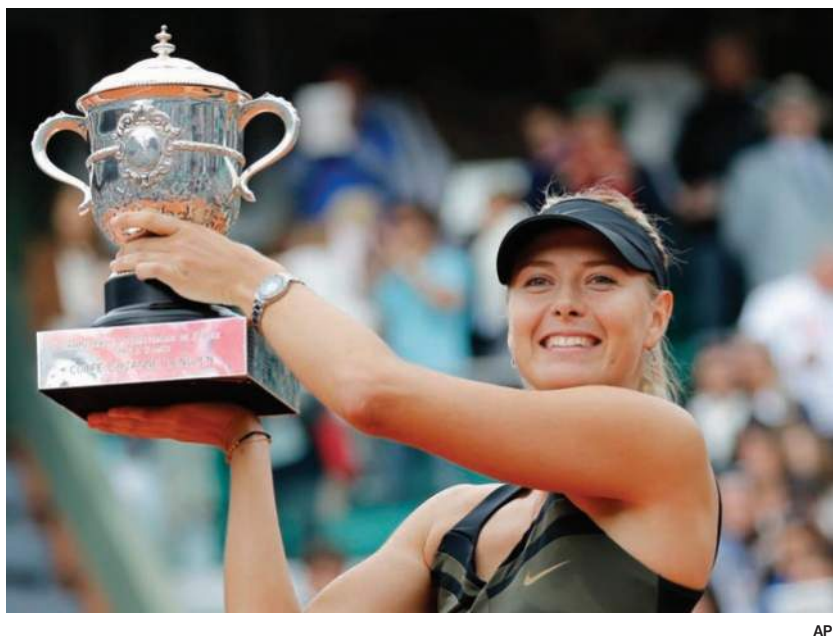
ROLAND GARROS PARIS

PARIS (AP)—Sidelined in 2008 by a right shoulder that needed surgery, putting her tennis future suddenly in doubt, Maria Sharapova decided to use the free time to study a new language, the one spoken at the only Grand Slam tournament she had yet to win.

"I found a French school close to my house," she recalled, "and I did private lessons every single day for three months."

Sharapova cut short those classes when it was time to begin the slow, painful rehab process and get her shoulder back in shape. About 3 1/2 years later, on Saturday at Roland Garros, Sharapova put all of that hard work to good use on the most important clay court there is - and even trotted out a little French during the victory speech she often wondered if she'd ever get a chance to deliver.

Whipping big serves with that rebuilt shoulder, putting forehands and backhands right on lines, and even moving well on the red surface she once worried made her look like a "cow on ice," Sharapova beat surprise finalist Sara Errani of Italy 6-3, 6-2 to win her first French Open title and become the 10th woman with a career Grand Slam.



AP

Russia's Maria Sharapova holds the cup after defeating Italy's Sara Errani in their women's final match in the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris, Saturday, June 9, 2012. Sharapova won, 6-3, 6-2.

"It's a wonderful moment in my career," the 25-year-old Sharapova told the crowd in French, before switching to English to add: "I'm really speechless. It's been such a journey for me to get to this stage."

Truly has.

So much came so easily for Sharapova at the start: Wimbledon champion at age 17; No. 1 in the rankings at 18; U.S. Open champion at 19; Australian Open champion at 20. But a shoulder operation in October 2008 made everything tougher. She didn't play singles from August 2008 until the following May, when her ranking fell to 126th.

"It wasn't getting better as soon as

See SHARAPOVA on Page 26

SIP snaps losing skid in Docomo Cup

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

DOCOMO PACIFIC CUP

Samahang Ilokano at Pangasinense/Barney's barged into the win column in the U20 division of the 2012 UFO Docomo Pacific Cup after routing Boholano/AON, 91-71, last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

An 11-0 start was all SIP needed to beat the young and inexperience Boholano crew and recover from two losses early in the six-team league. Boholano, which is bannered by members of the CNMI Team 2 that played in last month's Micronesian Basketball U17 Tournament is still winless after two matches.

Rodney Sacramento scored seven of those 11 points, as he walked away with fastbreak layups, capitalizing on Boholano's careless passing. Turnovers were not recorded in the game, but the disorganized Boholano committed more than 10 just in the first quarter.

By the end of the first period, SIP threatened to break away, taking an early double-digit lead, 26-12. It was all SIP from thereon, as Boholano continued to struggle with its ball movement and to make matters worse, it muffed

See SIP on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

SIP/Barney's Erick Dela Rosa, left, and Lester Vertudez, double team a driving Karlo De Leon of Boholano/AON during the second quarter of their game in the U20 division of the UFO Docomo Pacific Cup last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.